

INTERNATIONAL

Four killed in crossfire in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Feb 7. (Reuters): Four civilians were killed and three were wounded by crossfire in clashes between Tamil rebels and Indian soldiers in eastern Sri Lanka, police said today.

Four civilians injured in clashes on Friday died in hospital on Saturday, police in Batticaloa town said.

The crossfire wounded three people when gunmen of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam ambushed an Indian military jeep at Kalmunai in Batticaloa district on Saturday, police said. A 40-minute gunbattle ensued.

Indian peace-keeping forces were sent in the island's North and East last July to enforce an Indian-backed peace pact aimed at ending a five-year-old Tamil rebellion for a separate state.

The Tigers, the biggest rebel group, repudiated the accord and are putting up stiff resistance against Indian troops trying to disarm them.

Residents of Batticaloa town meanwhile reported increasing Indian military activity there with "soldiers swarming all over."

Reinforcement

"They are at every nook and corner. Three days ago Indian transport planes brought in at least 1,000 soldiers, raising their strength to about 15,000 (here) from about 6,000 last year," one prominent resident said by telephone.

Sri Lankan officials said on Saturday that India was to boost its forces deployed in Sri Lanka to 70,000 this month from 55,000.

They said the Tigers had switched their campaign to the East after losing the northern Jaffna peninsula stronghold to the Indians last year after a protracted battle.

Palestinians launch manhunt in S. Lebanon

Fatah vows to free UN men

SIDON, Feb 7. (Reuters): A Palestinian official loyal to Yasir Arafat threatened today to use force to free two Scandinavian United Nations relief workers held by Palestinian gunmen in this southern Lebanese town.

Anwar Madi of the mainstream Fatah group, led by Arafat, told Reuters in Sidon that Palestinian commandos of several factions had launched a manhunt for the two in Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp and surrounding hills.

He expected the men to be released in 48 hours.

Sacking

Masled Palestinians snatched 44-year-old Swede Jan Stening and Norwegian William Joergensen, 57, outside Sidon on Friday.

The two work in nearby Tyre for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa), which provides aid to 380,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and nearly two million more elsewhere in the Middle East.

Madi said Fatah officials were making contacts to release the two "and if dialogue does not work we will use other ways."

Karachi riot toll rises to 15

KARACHI, Feb 7. (Reuters): The death toll from the latest bout of ethnic fighting in Karachi rose to 15 today and a senior official blamed drug barons for stoking the violence.

Thirteen people were killed in two days of clashes which erupted on Friday between rival Pashtun and Mohajir communities. Doctors said the bodies of two more people, one stabbed and the other shot, had been found.

The activists were not students at Chittagong but had forced their way into the hall of residence and stayed there illegally, clashing with bona fide students.

Most of the interlopers jumped from windows and fled to nearby hills under cover of thick fog as soon as police entered the campus. Others escaped in a bus.

No arrests were made, which sparked accusations by some

student groups that police had allowed the activists free passage from the campus.

Police said the activists built rooftop bunkers and watch towers with sandbags and rocks and repeatedly fought battles with other Chittagong students, in which nearly 30 were injured.

The government closed Bangladesh's six universities on Nov 27 when President Hossain Mohammad Ershad imposed a state of emergency to curb an opposition campaign for his resignation.

Five universities were reopened last month but students and teachers of Chittagong University refused to resume classes until the outsiders, supported by Ershad's Jatiya Party, were dislodged.

The university is now expected to be reopened on Feb 17, one university official said.

Sudan receives Iraqi aid

KHARTOUM, Feb 7. (AP): Two Iraqi transport planes have landed here carrying 80 tons of relief supplies for famine victims in southern Sudan, but sources said today that they would not fly into the south unless they receive assurances they can land safely.

The Iraqi sources said the two planes which arrived Saturday were carrying the first batch of 240 tons of food, medicine, agricultural inputs and clothes which Iraq had assisted Sudan to

who held talks with local Unrwa officials today, said the two were held in a deserted area southeast of Ain Al Hilweh no man's land between Palestinian fighters and the Amal militia.

Arafat enjoys a wide following at Ain Al Hilweh, home to 80,000 refugees, 40 km from Beirut.

The sources said they suspected a link between the abductions and the six, who were loyal to Arafat and had demanded that they be released or paid compensation.

Palestinian officials loyal to Arafat in Sidon have described the kidnappers as "irregular elements" and Unrwa itself has denied it fired any of its Palestinian employees.

Two Unrwa officials working for the release of Stening and Joergensen, Irishman John Carolan and Milan Trojannic, a Yugoslav, arrived at nearby Haliyah town.

Contacts

The kidnap victims were among 41 international staff with Unrwa in Lebanon. More than 2,000 Palestinians also work for the organisation.

Madi, one of several Palestinian officials of various factions

Unrwa's director in Lebanon, Per Olof Hallquist, appealed yesterday for the release of the two and said the kidnapping may threaten continued UN aid to Lebanon and Palestinians.

The abductions, the first of Scandinavians in Lebanon, brought to 27 the number of foreigners missing believed kidnapped in the war-torn country.

Sweden's consul in West Berlin, Svenmar Steffjernberg, and Norway's Charge d'Affaires in Damascus Peter Raeder, arrived in Lebanon on Saturday to help efforts to win freedom for the two.

Steffjernberg said after meeting Mustafa Saad, leader of the Muslim Popular Liberation Army (PLA) which controls Sidon, he hoped the case would be solved peacefully.

"We would like to see a peaceful solution with no bloodshed ... PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) chairman Yasser Arafat himself is determined to see a speedy solution," he told reporters.

He said he would keep a vigil at Unrwa's headquarters in West Beirut until a "happy ending is reached."

Unrwa said yesterday the kidnappers were Palestinians "with connections" to Arafat and were holding the two in Sidon.

Unrwa's information officer in Beirut, Niall Kiely, told Reuters the agency had no new information on the release prospects of the two. "We are still waiting for news," he said.

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Unrwa

Pharmacists urged to study toxicology

By Jadranka Porter

THE Ministry of Health is encouraging Kuwaiti pharmacists to take up post-graduate studies in therapeutic drug monitoring and toxicology to equip them with skills available in interpreting clinical laboratory test results.

The director of clinical laboratories in the Amiri Hospital health region, Dr Mustafa Abu Lisan, said the clinical pharmacists carry the responsibility of interpreting the levels of drugs in blood and will advise the concerned physicians on the correct dosage.

"The ministry is giving its full support, including scholarships, to candidates interested in medical skills that are in demand in Kuwait," said Abu Lisan who is also the chairman of the department of clinical laboratories in the Amiri Teaching Hospital.

Reduce

A greater number of clinical pharmacists will boost plans for the proposed poison centre at the Amiri Hospital. The hospital is currently running a poison information centre.

Utaiba tribe limits dowry to KD5,000

ANOTHER Kuwaiti tribe, Utaiba, has decided to limit the dowry to KD5,000 only, following the example set by the Rashaya tribe last month.

The Utaiba tribe also banned the slaughter of camels during marriage parties and totally banned the invitation to and participation of any musical troupe at the marriage.

In a statement issued recently, the tribe banned its youths from going to clubs or hotels for their marriage parties.

The statement was made after a meeting of the tribe's leaders, who said that exaggerated dowries and marriage parties were out of keeping with the teach-



from heart disease, asthma, epilepsy and febrile seizures.

The subject received prominence at the fifth Arab Congress of Clinical Chemistry held in Cairo last month at which Abu Lisan was elected the general secretary of the Arab Federation of Clinical Chemists.

Quality control

Abu Lisan co-chaired the conference and delivered a lecture on therapeutic monitoring of antibiotics. The scientist also discussed diabetes, tumours, malnutrition, diagnosis of AIDS and paediatric clinical chemistry.

The conference called for the setting up of national quality control programmes to make laboratory tests more reliable and put greater emphasis on higher education and training in laboratory medicine. It recommended the establishment of a national industry to produce simple laboratory equipment, consumables and reagents used in clinical laboratories.

Therapeutic drug monitoring, not as widely practised in Kuwait as it is in Europe and the US, can reduce drug wastage and patients' stay in hospital. It is particularly useful when applied to children and patients suffering

Specialists in therapeutic drug monitoring observe the drug levels in a patient's blood to make sure that the given dosage has a therapeutic effect. They have to guard against exceeding the correct dosage to avoid side-effects and toxicity.

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Kisr to host agricultural symposium

KUWAIT Institute for Scientific Research (Kisr) will host a special symposium on the GCC agricultural computer information network from March 21 to 23, 1988, with research and work papers contributed from Gulf Cooperation Council member states.

Papers will include reports on work being done in the areas of agricultural research, short and long term agricultural priorities, management of the agricultural computer information network and channels of cooperation between GCC countries in the field of agricultural research.

Kisr also has plans to host a conference on the use of catalysts in oil refineries from March 4 to 8, 1989, which will discuss testing techniques used in the hydrodynamic treatment and related properties and technologies for using catalysts in the hydrodynamic treatment of oil derivatives.

The agricultural symposium is being organised in cooperation with the GCC general secretariat, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

Interview for supervisory positions

SAUD Al Rifai, the Assistant Undersecretary for General Education Affairs at Kuwait's Education Ministry, said the personnel selection committee would interview applicants for supervisory positions from Feb 14 to March 14.

Al Rifai said the number of applicants for these jobs reached 1,014, with 47 applying for deputy-principal positions and 86 for principal positions.

Applicants will be selected according to ministerial guidelines, she said, which include that the applicant have official documentation of two consecutive years of excellent performance, consideration of the amount of experience in education and the availability of jobs for each.

Al Suhail added that one problem which remained was the registration of cars bought at the used car market. He said that some brokers incorrectly complete information forms about cars sold, which is illegal.

The mobile target shown here was completed by the Kuwait Science Club this week for use by Kuwait's Air Force and Army.

Science Club builds mobile target

KUWAIT Science Club celebrated the completion of a mobile ground target this week. The mobile target, which was presented to the Defence Ministry, was made according to the request of the Kuwait Air Force and Army, which will use it to train Air Force pilots.

The science club members reinforced the body of a normal car and equipped it with a remote control system, which enables the car to be driven without a driver. Captain Fahd Al Rashed from the Air Force supervised the three-month project.

33 accidents

THERE were 33 traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday.

Ten took place in the capital, two in Hawalli, 14 in Ahmadi and seven in Jahra.

Used cars market problems solved

NAYEF Al Suhail, the head of the commercial licences section at Kuwait's Ministry of Commerce, said that problems related to the used cars market had been solved with the application of new procedures. He explained that with new procedures being employed, traffic jams and the lack of organisation in parking used cars had been eliminated.

Every broker now has a special place designated to park cars which prevents them from moving from one place to another, he said.

Al Suhail added that one problem which remained was the registration of cars bought at the used car market. He said that some brokers incorrectly complete information forms about cars sold, which is illegal.

Mazeidi rejects heavy increase in air fare

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Services Issa Al Mazeidi yesterday re-affirmed his rejection to any heavy increase in airline fares from and to Kuwait.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper Al Mazeidi said that the general department for Civil Aviation tries to convince international airlines to choose Kuwait as a main stop in the area, indicating that Kuwait is one of the best world countries in providing the necessary services and is strategically-located, particularly for long routes' passengers.

The Kuwaiti minister said that during his recent meeting with GCC aviation officials, he sensed a sure desire to overcome several problems which, in the past, obstructed more cooperation between civil aviation bodies in the council states.

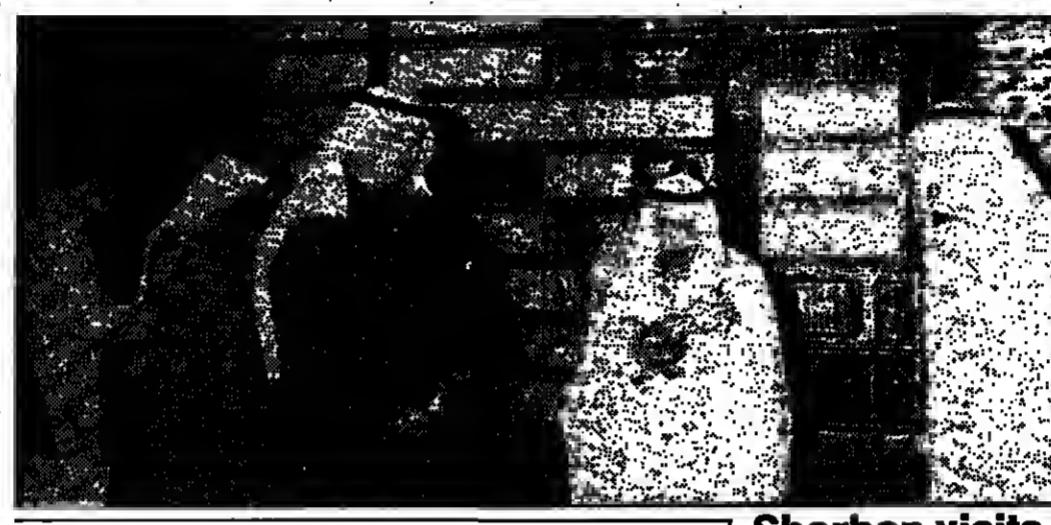
Two held for smuggling opium

DETECTIVES have caught two Iranians on a charge of smuggling about 8.5 kgs of opium.

The drug was hidden at a warehouse in the Shuaiba Industrial area.



Kuwait's Communications Minister Abdullah Al Sharhan and the Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoubi visited the Hawalli Telecommunications and Postal Centre where they observed the work being done in the communications area (above) and inspected the facilities (below).



Reverse osmosis will reduce desalination cost

ELECTRICITY and Water Minister, Dr Homoud Al Rabbah, said yesterday that use of the reverse osmosis process would reduce the cost of water desalination in Kuwait.

He said although the new method was still on an experimental basis in Kuwait, it would give preference in the future.

He said the people in Kuwait were accustomed to over-consume water and electricity.

He announced that after a few months he would set a date for solving the problem of rust in the drinking water.

Al Rabbah said the use of nuclear energy for generating electricity had merits and demerits, but it was still not the time to discuss its use in Kuwait.

Speaking about the administrative process, he said the process aimed at putting the suitable man in the suitable post, inducing new blood into the administration and clearly defining the duties of each post.

He hoped the Iraq-Iran war

would end this year.

About solving the problem of rust in drinking water in Kuwait, he said the ministry was currently engaged in a detailed study of this problem, and it would take him only some months to fix a date for solving the problem completely.

He said he would not say whether he would change the ministry staff until he had sufficient time to study the situation in the ministry. He added that a study must be made on this issue to be able to make decisions.

Sharhan visits Hawalli postal centre

KUWAIT'S Communications Minister Abdullah Al Sharhan visited the Hawalli Telecommunications and Postal Centre on Saturday where it was inspected by the different sections and services of the centre.

Minister Al Sharhan was accompanied by the Communications Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoubi, the Assistant Undersecretary for Postal Affairs Ibrahim Abdin Razzak and senior ministry officials.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday granted an audience to Sheikh Jaber Al Ali.

Continuation of uprising encouraged

KUWAITI dailies yesterday encouraged the continuation of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and criticised those who attempt to obstruct the Palestinian revolt.

Al Rai Al Aam cited the United States as the best example of those parties that work endlessly to abort the uprising.

The paper said the US is currently launching an intensive diplomatic drive in the Mideast, which is unusual at this time when the US is preoccupied with the presidential elections.

The newspaper asked if the US is really serious in prevailing peace in the region then why did it use the veto right in the Security Council against a resolution that calls for the protection of Palestinians inside the Israeli occupied lands.

The paper also accused other regional and international parties that work to halt the uprising "because the continuation of the revolt means the inclusion of elements that were not put into account or expected as what is going on in Lebanon."

"The conspiracy" includes several parties, the paper stressed but emphasised the necessity to continue the uprising in spite of all the obstacles.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

US trying to foil the uprising

A KUWAITI weekly yesterday charged the United States of indulging in a fruitless attempt to foil the popular uprising of the Palestinians when it despatched Philip Habib to the region last week.

What could the United States do to help the uprising after voting condemnation of the barbaric practices of Israel against the unarmed Palestinians, which the entire world community including the American media, denounced, Al Risala said.

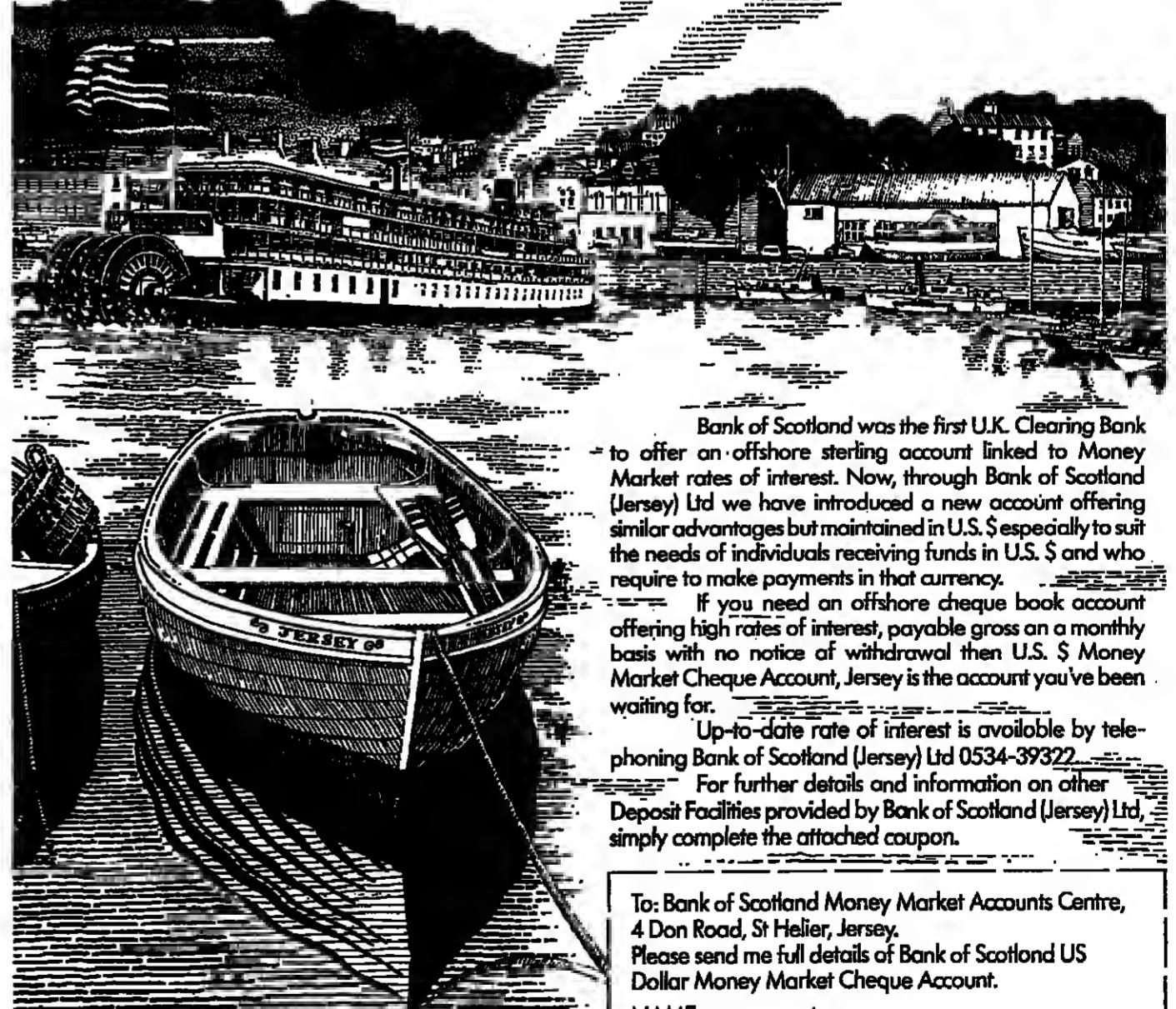
"Philip Habib could not help leaving the region empty-handed," the weekly said recalling the American envoy's notorious record in the region when he promised safety for the Palestinian camps in the wake of the withdrawal of the PLO forces from Beirut in 1982 but were massacred a few days afterwards by the Israel-backed Phalangist militias.

The American envoy met with Jordan's King Hussein in Amman last week hours before the monarch embarked on his current European tour but nothing filtered out on what went on in that meeting which was followed by a similar one with President Hafez Al Assad of Syria.

Al Risala said that Habib prepared to head for the region, it was anticipated before hand that his mission would fail because he came to abort a horizon embroiled by the Palestinian people by bullets and stones and paid for by dear blood.

Concluding, the weekly said the American envoy had no right in the first place to come "because the Palestinians do not expect the American administration to appreciate the ambitions and aspirations the Palestinians are fighting for to the finish."

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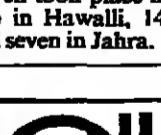
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Sheikh Saad lays stress on implementation of CSC resolutions

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday stressed the need to implement all resolutions issued by the Council of Civil Services and for interpreting them into tangible and practical results.

Following yesterday's cabinet session, presided over by Sheikh Saad, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed said the premier had stressed on the need to improve the state's services and upgrade job performance in the ministries and public institutions.

Al Rashed said the cabinet comprehensively discussed effective ways of improving the performance level of the government's administrative system.

Al Rashed noted that he had briefed the council on activities and programmes of the Civil Services Council in a bid to reach such a goal.

He added that the ministers were also briefed on the message to HH the Amir from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi that dealt with bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern topped by the Iraq-Iran war and the Palestinians uprising.

Al Rashed said the council also reviewed a message

delivered to the Amir from Yugoslav President Lazar Mijatovic, Al Rashed said, adding the talks tackled the ministerial meeting to be held in Belgrade next April 6. The meeting will be designed to discuss the proposed international mechanism for trade preferentials in a bid to encourage economic cooperation among the developing countries, Al Rashed noted.

The minister said the cabinet was also briefed on content of the message delivered to HH the Amir from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf tackling the bilateral relations.

Revolt
The cabinet, regarding political Arab situation, discussed the latest developments in occupied Palestine including the ongoing revolt against the atrocious Israeli practices.

Al Rashed noted that the cabinet has followed with great concern the ongoing efforts which are being exerted at all levels to support the continuation and steadfastness of such a heroic revolt in a bid to restore the usurped rights of the Palestinian people.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saoud Al Otaibi then reported to the council results of talks he held here last week with

visiting Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Eduardo Falcao, Al Rashed said, adding the talks tackled the bilateral relations and ways to boost them as well as a number of political issues of mutual concern topped by the situation in the Gulf region and the Palestinian uprising.

Oil issues

The cabinet also briefed by minister of Oil Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa on the outcome of his visit to New York and London where he lectured on oil situation in international markets, Al Rashed said. He added that Sheikh Ali also briefed the cabinet on results of talks he held during the visit with officials there on oil issues of mutual concern and ways to boost them.

Al Rashed said the cabinet had also listened to results of the visit to Bahrain last week by Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasir Al Roudhan that was aimed at exchanging expertise and accomplishing cooperation in the housing care.

Al Roudhan gave a full report on talks he held there that centred on housing systems, legislative programmes and the appropriate techniques to

implement resolutions of cooperation issued by the Gulf Cooperation Council, Al Rashed said.

Al Rashed added that the cabinet was also briefed by the Minister of Education and acting Minister of Higher Education Anwar Al Nouri on his visit to Jordan.

During his visit there last week Al Nouri reviewed the Jordanian expertise in the general and higher education systems, Al Rashed said, adding that the minister had also signed an agreement aimed at supporting cooperation between the two countries in the cultural and educational fields.

Minister of Health Abdul Razzaq Al Abdal Razzaq has also reported to the council on results of his talks with the Vietnamese Minister of Health, Wang Hoi Xuan, who concluded a five-day visit yesterday, Al Rashed said.

He added that talks had focused on boosting cooperation in the health and preventive fields as well as exchanging expertise and resources between the two countries.

Al Rashed concluded that the cabinet had discussed a number of local issues and endorsed the appropriate resolutions.



Taher Shaat

Conference on developing Arab manpower

THE best form of investment is developing and training Arab manpower, and progress cannot be measured only in terms of high-rise buildings and modern highways, according to a prominent Arab administrative expert.

"The optimal investment is investing in the individual who can create and modernize," said Shaat, the director of engineering and administration in Kuwait of the Cairo-based Arab Experts Foundation.

Shaat held a news conference that an Arab conference on training and administrative development, the second of its kind, will be held in Cairo in the period March 1-3.

Shaat pointed out that the success of the first conference, held last March, underlined the importance of continuing contacts and gatherings of officials responsible for training and improving the performance of administrative institutions.

He said one of the main topics to be discussed will be the strategy to develop Arab manpower. There will be discussions on research papers on issues likely to be faced by Arabs in the field of training and manpower. Steps to confront housing and demographic threats to staff development will also be discussed.

On the second day the discussion will focus on several working papers covering the response of Arab establishments to future threats and vocational issues on training and developing manpower.

The conference on the use of micro-computer will study various issues related to micro-computers and calculators in the Arab world.

Responding to a question, the official said that AIDS is not a

Kuwait has 15 AIDS carriers

DR KAZEM Behbehani, Director of the Regional Aids Centre set up by the World Health Organisation (WHO), has said that 15 of 75,000 people recently tested in Kuwait have been found to be carriers of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which causes AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome).

"There is not a single AIDS case... but what we don't know is the number of HIV carriers in the total population," he said.

Foreign residents who have proven HIV positive have been deported and may have developed the disease elsewhere,

WHO officials had been notified of 78 AIDS cases in the Middle East region as of last month, compared to roughly 50,000 in the US which has about the same population.

Increasing

But Behbehani said the danger was the spread of the HIV virus which may take years to trigger the disease itself.

"The number of HIV positives is increasing in the region. We

don't have that many cases, but eventually we will have more and more," he said.

WHO says between five and 10 million people worldwide may be HIV carriers. "That is where the danger is... from healthy people going around the population spreading it without knowing."

Behbehani said.

A United Arab Emirates health official last month reported 22 AIDS cases there last year. In a country of only 1.7 million people, this suggested an infection rate per capita as high as some countries in Europe.

Qatar reported nine AIDS cases as of last May from a population of only 310,000.

Meanwhile, the AIDS committee of the Council of Health Ministers of the Arab Gulf states, will hold a meeting in Doha, Qatar, on Feb 28th. The committee will follow up the AIDS cases discovered in each Gulf state and the preventive measures taken.

Director of the authority's Animal Health Department, Dr Sultan Ahmed Sultan, said that national production only meets 45 per cent of Kuwait's needs while the remainder is being imported from abroad.

He urged incentives to this industry to reach at least the level of self-sufficiency, promising that the authority would offer all possible assistance to this sector.

Dr Sultan pointed out that chicken meat and eggs are average ingredients of the Kuwaiti family consumption at least twice a week and noted that annual average consumption of the Kuwaiti individual reaches 28 kilograms of chicken meat and 200 eggs.

Refresher course on poultry farming

POULTRY farms in Kuwait, numbering 65, produce 30 million chickens and 200 million eggs per year, said an official of the Kuwait Public Authority for Agriculture and Fisheries on Saturday.

The official was addressing a refresher course on poultry farming and health, jointly sponsored by the authority and the Near East Regional Centre for Poultry Development and Training which got underway at the Agro-Engineering Society Centre.

Director of the authority's Animal Health Department, Dr Sultan Ahmed Sultan, said that national production only meets 45 per cent of Kuwait's needs while the remainder is being imported from abroad.

He urged incentives to this industry to reach at least the level of self-sufficiency, promising that the authority would offer all possible assistance to this sector.

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Ministry preparing French, English textbooks

KUWAIT'S Education Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khudari said the ministry was preparing English and French textbooks for intermediate and secondary school students. He explained that previously French and English textbooks were purchased from foreign countries and were inappropriate for use in Kuwait.

Headed that the ministry has many well-qualified experts to write textbooks required for any subject. Writing and publishing our own textbooks, he said, will not only provide books appropriate for Kuwait but will also reduce the cost of textbooks.

Complaints welcomed

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Electricity and Water Dr Hmoud Al Rqobah said that his office is open to citizens who have complaints or suggestions about the ministry. He also recently issued a circular encouraging the ministry staff to work as one team in service of the country.

Al Rqobah added that his responsibility as new minister will be to continue the progress made by former ministers and to further develop the services provided by the ministry.

Jordanian peace walker



A MAN who is walking around the world to spread the message of peace arrived in Kuwait yesterday.

Walid Mohammed Al Amayera (above), a Jordanian, said his journey will take eight years and he plans to visit 168 countries. He has so far covered only 4,500 kilometres and visited Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

He has lost 40 kilogrammes in weight.

His next destination is the Iraq-Iraq war front to call for peace.

He has studied many books on geography, astronomy and habits of people as well as books on old Arab adventures.

He said the trip will cost him \$500,000 but nobody has come forward to finance him. He left his job at Jordan's Tourism Ministry to make the trip.

Planning committee reorganised

SHEIKH Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah, Kuwait's Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, has issued a decision restructuring the ministry's planning committee and naming himself as chairman and the undersecretary and his assistants as members.

The ministerial committee will follow up on the work being done in the administrative sector, develop techniques to improve work performance, prepare training programmes and arrange study grants.

The committee will also follow the implementation stages of the Five Year Plan through progress reports presented for review.

Bahrain, Egypt seek to boost cooperation

CAIRO, Feb 7, (UPI): Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa, Crown Prince of Bahrain, said he discussed with Egyptian Defense Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu-Ghazala today the various aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

Sheikh Hamad, who is the commander-in-chief of the Bahraini defense forces, said the Iraq-Iran war also topped the agenda of his talks with Abu-Ghazala.

"We talked about the various subjects of cooperation between the two countries, Sheikh Hamad told reporters. "The talks also dealt with all questions of importance to the Arab world, particularly the Iraq-Iran war."

The Bahraini prince, on the second day of a visit to Egypt, was taken on a tour of the Saqr (hawk) military plant, that manufactures anti-aircraft and anti-tank missiles.

Lt. Gen. Ibrahim Al-Orabi, the top man in Egypt's military industry, accompanied Sheikh Hamad on the visit and described

the Bahraini Army officers will visit Egypt to acquaint themselves with the Egyptian military industry and its products.

Sheikh Hamad said he looked forward to "more understanding and cooperation between the two countries."

Hamad was the highest Bahraini official to visit Egypt since Bahraini and other Arab Gulf states restored diplomatic relations with Egypt last November. He was expected to meet with President Hosni Mubarak on Monday.

The majority of Arab states broke off relations with Egypt in 1979 to protest its peace treaty with Israel. Now a total of 15 Arab countries maintain diplomatic ties with Cairo, compared to five that do not.

The Arab Gulf states, fearful of a possible spillover of the Gulf conflict, were eager for Egypt's return to the Arab fold as a counter-balance to the Iranian threat.

He added that they are the last of the two countries to be faced with the response of Arab establishments to future threats and vocational issues on training and developing manpower.

The conference on the use of micro-computer will study various issues related to micro-computers and calculators in the Arab world.

Responding to a question, the official said that AIDS is not a

Warning on import of 25 types of cheese

KUWAIT'S Foreign Ministry has warned Kuwait Municipality against authorising the import of over 25 types of cheese, both Swiss and French, after a laboratory analysis revealed the presence of a disease causing bacteria known as Listeria.

A newspaper said the disease hit children and expectant mothers, and the municipality had arranged for special procedures to withdraw existing stocks of these types of cheese from the local market, cooperative supermarkets and other foodstuff shops.

Meanwhile, the municipality has instructed its centres in the country and border posts to ban entry of these types of cheese into Kuwait. A source at the municipality said that analysis and tests will be carried out on all types of cheese to ensure that they are free of infections. He stressed that the quantity of bacteria-infected cheese in Kuwait was not much.

On the second day the discussion will focus on several working papers covering the response of Arab establishments to future threats and vocational issues on training and developing manpower.

The conference on the use of micro-computer will study various issues related to micro-computers and calculators in the Arab world.

Responding to a question, the official said that AIDS is not a

serious problem in Vietnam because there is a system for screening blood donors in order to combat the fatal disease.

Regarding his meeting with HH the Amir of Kuwait and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, he said they reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

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He expressed satisfaction over the outcome of his talks with Kuwaiti officials and described the two countries' relations as "friendly".

During his visit, the Vietnamese Health Minister toured several health institutions including Addan Hospital and the National Cancer Centre. He also visited the oil city of Ahmadi and recreational facilities at Khor resort.

He expressed admiration over the places he visited, describing them as of "high standard."

KD50 fine for stabbing wife

KUWAIT'S criminal Court fined a man KD 50 for stabbing his divorced wife several times.

The woman said the incident took place when the defendant, who had divorced her five months ago, came to her parents home but she didn't allow him to enter. After some time he broke into the house with a knife and

stabbed her several times in the neck. He followed her outside until she took shelter in a neighbour's house.

The court changed the charge from attempted murder to assault because the intention to murder was not there, pointing out the defendant had used a small knife.

Al Rqobah added that his responsibility as new minister will be to continue the progress made by former ministers and to further develop the services provided by the ministry.

Telephone bills follow-up committee

A KUWAITI daily reported on Saturday that Kuwait's Communications Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoubi issued a decision setting up a committee to follow up problems with telephone bills which do not reach the correct subscribers or are not received by subscribers.

He said this decision should result in improved relations between the ministry and telephone subscribers as well as solving problems that result when telephone calls are delayed.

It was also reported that the Ministry of Communications will soon utilise a computer system to immediately determine and collect charges for international calls placed at central or residences.

Relief goods for Lebanon

ACCORDING to official sources Kuwait will dispatch 50 to 60 truckloads of relief goods to Arabs in Lebanon, which include foodstuffs, school items and other necessities.

The Assistant Director-General of the Arab League, Al Akbar Al Ibrahim, will arrange for the passage of the trucks through Syria and will then travel to Lebanon to arrange the arrival of the trucks with Lebanese officials.

The sources said that the relief goods are valued at \$5 million.

Verdict on Feb 22

PRESIDENT of the State Security Court, Justice Mohamed Al-Hai Al-Banai, has reserved February 22nd as date to pass sentence in the case involving a Kuwaiti national accused of advocating overthrow of the present system in Kuwait.

The State Security Court opened yesterday trial of Ismail Sayed Hassan Sayed Akber, 31, charged of publicly distributing leaflets inciting overthrow of the current regime and containing defamation against the Amiri.

The message was conveyed this morning by Kuwaiti Charge d'Affaires here Mohammed Saud Al-Bader, it added.

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

A mystery is mysteriously missing

By Fathima Ahmed

VINOD Khanna is one hero who has been resurrected recently.

Many of his old films are doing the circuits. One is *Faisla* (*The Decision*). Nothing is decisive about the script, though.

In one sequence, a seductive blind girl (Saira Banu), stumbles over chairs and everything in her path, and squeaks "stop, stop, he'll get hurt" in a high pitched voice. The villain is beating up the girl's father for information about a missing document.

Saira is pretty but she had never been a good actress. She somehow managed to sneak her way into films on the strength of her beauty.

Saira makes an eye-catching prop in the so-called mystery thriller, which is more of an aven-

ger type of movie.

Everyone is after someone:

Vinod Khanna and Ashok Kumar, two ex-convicts break jail to take revenge for the killing of Anuradha and Razia. The avaricious villains are after money; the gardener (Vinod Mehra) who whispers sweet nothings to the blind girl, has a noble job: to get to the bottom of the mystery. Honestly, the greatest mystery is the lack of one in *Faisla*. Well, you watch the film and decide. By the way, Mehmood bops, skips and jumps, with a bottle in one hand and a girl on another, to join the "decision makers" in *Faisla*.

In the crazy world of films, men are made and unmade overnight, well, almost overnight. Before Khadgarz, Shatrughan Sinha was not hot property. Now, his pictures are splashed all over glossy magazines and he is getting films by the bucketful. Cashing in on his reincarnation, earlier films are being re-released in Bombay, from where they trickle into other countries, like Kuwait, on video. Sinha, before last year's phenomenal success as

Bushra Ansari mimics singer Noor Jehan. Bushra plays the lead in the Pakistani comedy *Aangan Tedha*.Marina Khan: fine performance in *Dhoop Kinare*.

ness.

Jaipal would certainly find his sons but viewers are hard-pressed to amuse themselves with the cops and robbers game played in Singapore, dinghy studios and poorly built sets. Now, we mustn't forget the mother (Nirupa Roy) who sheds gallons of tears before catching up with the missing husband, whom she forgives immediately, soaking his coat with "tears of joy".

Tears of gratitude trickle down your cheek when you switch off *Dharam Shatru*, praising the man who invented the machine called video.

At present, Pakistani dramas are gaining more popularity, simply because they offer a cohesive theme, witty dialogue and in most instances, good acting.

Dhoop Kinare, written by Sahira Kazemi, is set in a bygone era. It is not so much about doctors as it is about attitudes, romance and complexities. Rather, it is a love triangle. She reappears when she sees Ahmed's interest in the young Ms. Khan.

The series, in three video-cassettes, makes compelling viewing as the characters, and the theme, develop, showing their weaknesses and strengths.

Rahat Kazemi seems to be a fine actor changing moods as the scene demands and plays Dr. Ahmed convincingly. The star of the series is certainly Marina Khan, who has a natural ability to win sympathy with her fine interpretation of the character she plays.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya.

A TWO-MILLION dollar collection of silverware belonging to the Hapsburgs and dukes and earls of Austria gives a glimpse of the art of silversmithery in the 19th and early 20th century.

A pair of exquisite candleabra, dated 1796, are priced at a whopping KD 21,000. The candleabra are about a metre high, shaped like an angel carrying the candlesticks, and stand on an eight-by-eight inch base. They belonged to the Earls of Palffy.

The cheapest item at the show, a silver sugar pot, is

Precious silverware

priced KD 460. Several serving plates and egg-cups from the Hapsburg collection bear the stamp of the imperial family, apart from very finely hand-crafted cups, cutlery, candlesticks, dishes, tea sets and other items. A total of 500 pieces of antique silverware are being shown at the Al Ghanem Centre on Al Soor Street.

Bernhard H.J. Lanz, who represents the firm dealing in silver antiques, said most of the items were made by such mas-

ters of the craft as J.C. Klinkosch, Hermann Suedfeld and the house of Venzenz Karl Mayer and Sons.

Silversmithery developed in Austria mainly because, unlike Great Britain, Russia, France and the Netherlands, it did not have to depend on colonies to fulfil the demand for silver. This encouraged silversmiths to perfect their craft, acquiring artistic skills.

The work of Austrian craftsmen was highly appreciated by the aristocrats and upper middle class," said Lanz.

Some of the pieces in the collection belong to the dukes of Festetics and Bathiany, two aristocratic families. The collection is dated from 1796 to 1930s and has been shown in Tokyo, New York and several European countries.

Interest

The Austrians are now preserving the art "to enrich our cultural heritage," said Lanz.

Kuwaitis have shown a considerable interest in the collection and some items have already been sold, said Lanz, pointing at several empty spots where the pieces had been displayed. Lanz is not too worried about taking back the valuable



The teapot, sugar pot and milk jug are dated 1872 and belonged to an Austrian duke. In the background is a candleabra from the same period.

collection as there is a ready market for such items in Europe. "We are here to show

the antiques in a new market," he said.

FA

Kuwait Natural History Group

The next meeting of the group will be held on Feb. 9, 7:30 pm at the Gulf English School. Mahmoud Shihab of the Science Museum will give an illustrated talk on "The Reptiles of Kuwait."

Music Concert '88

Adeeb, Lynley (vocals), Ammar (guitar/vocals), Aasim (keyboard-synthesizer), Murtaza (bass guitar) and Raza (drums) will participate in the Music Concert '88, due to be held on Feb 19 at Al Andalus Cinema.

They will present a variety of songs by Duran Duran, Europe, Bonjovi and others. Tickets available at Al Andalus box office. For details contact — 5618482 or 3983165 (Adech).

ACT

Any Texans or adopted Texans interested in helping with ACT's March 3 Texas Independence Day Party please contact 5725071; 2528366; 5639204.

Kuwait Rondells

Aiden J. Harvey (British TV comedy impressionist) will be the special guest at the Kuwait Rondells 1988 Gala Annual Ball at Messilah Beach Hotel on Feb 11, Thursday. Tables available for six, 10 or 12 people. Dress formal, lounge suit.

Tickets — KD 10. For reservations ring Paul Richards — 5337597; Marin Cheetah — 4745916.

Danish Meeting

All Danes are invited to the "Fastelavn" party on Feb 12, 1 pm, at the Gazelle Club. For reservations contact Connie — 3947693; Karen-Marie — 3946725. Feb 9 is the last date for registration.

Flassik

Flassik will hold a Valentine's dinner-musical at 6:30 pm Feb 12, Friday, at Al Dira Ballroom, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free transport will be provided from the Church from 6 pm. For tickets ring 2439451, Mabuhay or Lords restaurant.

Kapilkul, is March 1. For further details contact Dick Orense — 4877793.

Kuwait Wield Society

Annual St. David's Day dinner at Messilah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912384.

HOTELS

AT THE SAS

Experience the exotic charm of the Orient at Tuesday's Sahrat Al Khema — Oriental Night — in The Tent. An Arabian bazaar features perfumes, jewellery, clothes, rugs and other items. Buffet dinner, live music and raffle prizes.

At the Rameesa Al Salm

Daily lunch, chef's special, and dinner buffet featured at the 24 hours Coffee Shop. From Sunday to Friday, steak and seafood specialties offered at El Merssa Restaurant.

SPORTS

Ladies Sports Club

Application forms are available from the Ras Al Ardh Sea club for the proposed Ladies Sports Club. The Ras Club is open from 9 am to 12 noon, and 5 to 7 pm. Tel: 5740670.

Photography contest

Kapilkul will hold a photography contest for Filipinos called "Portrait of Filipinos in Kuwait." Entry forms are available from all Filipino restaurants and the Philippines Embassy. Last date to enter the competition, which is open only to members of

Silver plates from the Hapsburg collection (left) and some of the 500 antiques on show.

WHAT'S ON

call Ken Winston — 5365075 or Glenis, producer, 5730641.

CINEMA

Films and the Law

Films and the Law is the title given to an American film festival, which will be held from Feb 13 to 17 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The following films will be shown on Feb 13: Mr Smith Goes to Washington, Feb 14: Modern Times; Feb 15: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman; Feb 16: All the King's Men; and Feb 17: The Best Man.

All shows begin at 7:30 pm sharp. Children are not allowed inside the auditorium.

The festival has been organised by the American Embassy in tandem with Kuwait Cine Club.

The Young Sherlock Holmes and the Pyramid of Fear, a Steven Spielberg production, will be shown on Feb 13/14 at 6:30 pm at the British Council in Mansouriya. Duration: 105 minutes.

Two children's films — Five Go To Mystery Moor and Five Go Off To Camp, based on Enid Blyton's Famous Five books, will be shown at 6 pm on Feb 10 (Wednesday) and at 10:30 pm on Feb 11 (Thursday). Duration: 71 minutes.

Admission free but it is advisable to make bookings. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

ARTS

Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum is open daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, except Friday, when it is open only in the mornings. A large selection of Islamic artefacts from the Arab and Muslim world are on show.

National Museum

Modern art paintings by Kuwaiti artist Ahmed Al Munayes are displayed at the National Museum; open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 6 pm.

THEATRE

KLT

Kuwait Little Theatre (KLT) will hold auditions for the summer musical at 7:30 pm on Feb. 16 and 19 at its premises in Ahmadi. Backstage helpers also needed. For further details ring 3985246 after 3 pm.

Kuwait Players

Tap dancing auditions (men and women) will be held at the Universal American School at 7:30 pm on Monday, Feb 8, for the play Stepping Out, which will be directed by Ken Winston.

Final casting takes place at the same venue at 3 pm on Feb 11, Thursday. One more non-dancing role for an actress who can play the piano. Those interested attend auditions or

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

2.15 Holy Quran
2.30 World News Via Satellite

3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'laeb: cartoon serial.

4.00 News Summary

4.20 Nuruddin Zanki: last episode of historical serial, featuring Ali Hassan and Laila Tahir

5.10 Mama Anisa and Children

6.00 Cultural Film

6.45 News Summary

6.50 Weekend — repeat

7.15 Our Children and the Future: new local programme. Guest is Dr. Mohammad Jawad Rida.

8.15 Good Evening and Local News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.50 Photography: last episode of Arabic serial, featuring Abdullah Ghait, Madhiha Hamdi, Jamil Rateb, Mohammad Rida.

10.50 Daerat Al Ahdath: "Circle of Events." A weekly talk show on "The Fishing Industry and Marine Resources." Guests are KU Prof. Dr. Jassim Mohammad Hassan; Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Saif, Kiar, Adnan Khalifa Rushdi. Hosted by Kamel Sulaiman and Salim Nasser.

11.50 Holy Quran

12.30 World News Via Satellite

12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

A scene from *A Year in the Life*, tonight's mini-series at 10.30 pm on KTV 2.

11.50 World News Via Satellite

12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Yogis Treasure Hunt: cartoons

6.30 The Animal Express: a look at breeding chimpanzees in captivity.

7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news, presented by KTV.

7.30 Chintz, Richard and Kate pretend to be ill to avoid a nosy friend.

8.00 News in English

8.40 The Law and Harry MacGraw: "Dead Men Don't Make

Phone Calls." In this episode, McGraw takes up the case of an innocent widow, accused of murder.

9.30 Horizon: BBC documentary "Life Story" — part 2 — examines how DNA works in a human body.

10.30 Mini-Series: "A Year in the Life" The family faces yet another crisis when one of the daughters meets an ex-boyfriend.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

MORNING

05.00 Opening

05.02 Songs and Music

05.04 Science Journal

05.20 Dogs and Music

05.30 News

06.40 Songs and Music

06.42 Early Programmes

09.00 Songs and Music

09.15 Writers and Their Works

09.20 Radio Magazine Supplement

10.00 Songs and Music

10.30 Songs and Music

11.00 Closedown

12.30 News on the FM Service

EVENING

21.00 Opening

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WHEN men speak ill of thee, live so as nobody may believe them — Plato, Greek philosopher (427 B.C.—347 B.C.)

OPINION

Need to improve economic systems

THE 10th conference of the Arab Economists Union began on Saturday. This conference, organised by the Kuwait Economics Society, will focus on development in the Arab world.

International reports say that if we view the Arab world geographically, it represents half of America's economic and political opportunities.

But the minds controlling the Arab world are different in their thinking from international economists. Each Arab country has a different political and economic system. And although investment opportunities in the Arab world have good returns, they face mismanagement, bribes, short-sightedness, regional attitudes and many other obstacles that hamper development and economic integration in the Arab world.

Thus, the present conference, being attended by select Arab economists, will not contribute anything new to the situation except to add to our knowledge of the Arab world's crisis and increase our pain.

At a time when we find some Arab countries searching for investors, hundreds of Arabs have found a better atmosphere and more security in investments outside the Arab world where they do not have to worry about the mismanagement of Arab countries.

We find that some Arab countries are trying to attract investors, while they continue to ignore advice to amend and improve their laws, especially those related to investments.

Such countries beg for foreign investors and try to attract them in various ways. But these investors, after having filled their stomachs on the country's hospitality, return to their own country convinced that they are poor investment risks and lack confidence.

When Arab investors go to these Arab countries, they initially face regional sensitivities, security harassment and officials asking for bribes in order to pass investment projects through local channels. The role of such officials, in most cases, is limited to getting quick clearance of the investors' goods from customs.

The meeting in Kuwait of the select economists from the Arab world could provide the incentive for these economists to ask their governments to improve their economic systems and their relations with Arab investors, if they wish to encourage development.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Only 'fools' pay taxes in Argentina

By Tyler Bridges

BUENOS AIRES: Argentina's underground economy, already one of the largest in the world, will become even larger with a tax increase recently approved by the Argentine Congress, analysts here say.

The legislation aims at raising \$3.5 billion to reduce Argentina's public budget deficit from about eight per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) to two per cent.

But critics say the measure will raise far less than that, because Argentines will avoid paying the taxes by shifting even more of their business transactions beyond government scrutiny.

"If Argentines are evading most taxes that already exist, I don't see how the government can expect people to pay the new taxes," a tax lawyer says.

Argentina is only one of many Latin American countries that have massive underground, or informal, economies, where people buy and sell goods without paying taxes or observing government regulations.

In Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador, the informal economy consists of vendors who clog city streets peddling everything from pencils to fruit.

Drugs

Drug trafficking has also spawned vast — and illegal — underground economies in Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia.

Paraguay's underground economy is sanctioned by the government, which permits goods from all over the world to pass through Puerto Stromer without restrictions.

Argentina's informal economy dates back to the colonial era, more than 200 years ago, when Spain required Argentina's goods to be transported to Peru before being exported to other countries. To get around this unwieldy arrangement, Argentine traders became avid smugglers.

Today Argentina's informal economy is far more sophisticated. Like Italy's, it operates side by side with the "real" economy, which is represented in the official statistics on GDP, employment, and income.

Marcos Vicentini, director of the Institute for Contemporary Studies, a business-financed think tank, says Argentina's informal economy grew as the government steadily expanded

its control over the economy.

This process began in the 1940s and '50s, when President Juan Peron nationalised dozens of foreign-owned companies in creating a corporatist economy. With successive governments — military and civilian — building upon Peron's model, Argentina today has one of the most state-controlled economies in the non-communist world.

The studies institute, which earlier this year did the first in-depth study of Argentina's informal economy, says that the country's actual GDP of some \$70 billion is 40 per cent greater if non-official business activities are counted.

Second

Only two out of five Argentines work in the regular economy, the report adds.

Of the 60 per cent of the work force in the informal sector, the study estimates, 10 per cent have undeclared second jobs, 15 per cent work without any formal contract of employment, and 35 per cent are self-employed workers who have no registered occupation. Workers for Afghan refugees.

Since Soviet troops invaded neighbouring Afghanistan in 1979, the city's population of 300,000 has exploded to one million. The influx of Afghan guerrillas and refugees, seeking shelter from the war, has brought a different culture and transformed the character of the city.

Peshawar took its name from the Sanskrit word "Push-papura" — city of flowers — but it is now a bulging metropolis. The city echoes with the sounds of craftsmen's hammers and horses' hooves. Its air stings with fumes from oily gasoline burned by ubiquitous three-wheeled scooters that serve as taxis.

Smuggling

Drug and weapon smuggling are part of life. Other smugglers range from Soviet stationery to electric appliances, textiles and car tyres.

Meanwhile, power lines short-circuit when the weather is hot, and heating gas often does not flow in the winter. Telephones regularly don't work, and it can take seven years to obtain a new telephone.

"In the United States, people don't like to pay taxes, but they feel an obligation to do so," says a Buenos Aires housewife. "Here, because government services are so bad, we think that only a fool willingly pays taxes."

Hurting Khomeini

At bases in Iraq, a rebel Army is in training to overthrow the rule of Ayatollah Khomeini in neighbouring Iran. The Army is the National Liberation Army, some of whose commanders helped overthrow the Shah. Here is a look at the NLA.

By Ed Blanche

WITH Iranian rebels in northern Iraq, (AP): The guerrilla commander, a former Tehran University professor, jabbed his pointer at the war table and said: "We're taking the war to Khomeini and we're hurting him."

Ibrahim Zakiri, 43, is a top commander in the National Liberation Army of Iran, or NLA which was formed last June.

It is built around the Mujahedeen Khalq, or People's Warriors, who helped Ayatollah Khomeini overthrow Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and were ousted by his fundamentalists along with other liberal and leftist allies.

"Our goal is a popular uprising that will get rid of Khomeini and his mullahs," Zakiri said.

The guerrilla campaign has been overshadowed by the Iran-Iraq war, now more than seven years old. Claims by the NLA that it has killed or wounded 9,000 Iranian soldiers and captured 900 on 100 raids into Iran at a cost of only several score casualties of its own have been met by scepticism.

In the past, the NLA has been known only through the claims in its communiques. Now it has decided to become more public, seeking to establish an image of itself as a viable military force.

Assault

Zakiri's headquarters base is near the Iranian border in north-eastern Iraq, and has a fighting complement of about 600 men and women. He commands several battalions in six other bases from which Zakiri said the NLA mounts attacks into western Iran.

He said the NLA has four other operational sectors to the south along the 730-mile (1,175 km) border.

Problem

Soon the Mujahedeen were in action again, assassinating leaders of the new Islamic Republic. Rajavi fled to France in 1981, but he and his followers were ordered out in June 1986 and went to Iraq.

Western military analysts and diplomats in Baghdad say guerrilla battle claims are exaggerated. A diplomat who served in Tehran for several years, speaking privately, described NLA forays into Iran as little more than pinpricks.

Weapons

Tehran Radio reported at the time that Iranian forces encountered "monafeqin," Persian for "hypocrites" and a pun on Mujahedeen, in the Pranshahr region and some fighting took place.

It was not possible to judge the NLA's fighting abilities during the visit, but the battalion at Zakiri's headquarters in a former Iraqi fort appeared well disciplined and highly motivated.

Fighters wore olive-green fatigues, without symbols of rank, and carried weapons made

"We began with hit-and-run attacks on small positions more than a year ago," Zakiri said. "Now we're carrying out brigade-size assaults all along the border from Kurdistan in the north to Khuzestan in the south."

Rebel officials would not disclose the size of their fighting force, and outside estimates range from 2,000 to 15,000. Zakiri claimed 3,000 Iranian Army defectors have bolstered the ranks, including scores of the 900 prisoners they have taken over the last year. Overall, about one-third of the NLA's members are women, but they have not yet gone into battle.

Mohammed Mohaddessin, 34, one of NLA leader Massoud Rajavi's closest political advisers, said in an interview that deserters from Khomeini's forces are growing. Rajavi, 40, leads the Mujahedeen Khalq and formed the guerrilla Army.

The regime is also one of our best sources of weapons," he said. "We've captured thousands of weapons, from small arms to heavy calibre weapons, including a tank."

The Mujahedeen, founded 22 years ago, joined Khomeini's revolution to bring down the Shah in February 1979, but the fundamentalists' mullahs got rid of liberal and leftist allies.

According to Zakiri's account, his forces marched seven hours to get behind the enemy. He said the rebels attacked at night, as the 64th Division was preparing to launch a drive toward a chain of Iraqi peaks in the Haj Omran sector.

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in the Soviet bloc and the West, they did not salute officers, but stiffened to attention when one passed.

Rebel ranks paraded twice a day before giant portraits of Rajavi and his third wife, Mariam, the Mujahedeen commander, and the Iranian and NLA flags. They chanted "Death to Khomeini" and "Long live Rajavi."

Photographs of Rajavi and Mariam were everywhere.

Zakiri's base is protected by Soviet-made 23mm anti-aircraft guns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers and automatic weapons, all bearing Iranian government markings.



A spokesman for Iranian Mujahedeen guerrilla group at a press conference. In the foreground are pictures of Rajavi and his wife.

mess halls and other facilities that surrounds an inner compound.

One large hall was filled with weapons the commander said were captured at Pranshahr. There were scores of 81 mm mortars, 23mm anti-aircraft guns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers and automatic weapons, all bearing Iranian government markings.

Support

Spacious barracks have two bunks and television sets. In a workshop, women made scale models of Iranian military tanks.

Many diplomats believe Rajavi, sole survivor of the original Mujahedeen leadership, won't get the popular support in Iran he seeks because of his identification with Iraq.

The US administration publicly characterises the Mujahedeen as Marxists and has kept the movement, which has offices in Washington, at arm's length.

A US diplomat in Baghdad said: "During the Shah's days, these are the guys that were killing American military advisers in Iran. It's hard to forget that, even if they are fighting Khomeini now."

Judged not by law, but by interpretation of history

1979, after 17 months of detention, authorities freed Wang and allowed him to return to his native Peking.

A month earlier, Deng and his allies had held a landmark party meeting in Peking, at which they consolidated their power, denounced the Cultural Revolution, and by implication Mao, and unveiled a sweeping reform programme for modernising China.

Moreover, the new leadership promised to redress the "unjust, wrong, and false cases" of the Maoists.

With a simple yet courageous honesty, Wang wrote that he believed the Tian An Men incident was correct, that Deng was "innocent," and that Mao, Hua, and the entire Politburo were mistaken for their handling of the event.

"Everyone felt as I did, but they didn't speak out for Deng Xiaoping," Wang said. "I did, but the consequences were very bad."

Shortly after party authorities received what they labelled his "politically reactionary letter," Wang said he was placed under house arrest on the state farm where he worked. Like millions of others, Wang had been "sent down" from the cities to the countryside to work during the Cultural Revolution.

The production corps held mass meetings to criticise me. I couldn't talk to anyone. I couldn't write letters home," Wang said. Guarded day and night by two workers, Wang was forced to write daily "self-criticisms," and was only allowed to read Mao's selected works and official news papers.

Then suddenly in January

1979, after 17 months of detention, authorities freed Wang and allowed him to return to his native Peking.

Officials at the party organisation department's guarded "letter inquiry office" — which they described as a secret state organ — said they are "in the midst of handing" Wang's case. "He has no need to worry, we will give him an appropriate response," said Wang Yuezong, the office head.

The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY IN HISTORY

1560 — Turkish galleys rout Spanish fleet under Duke of Medina Celi off Tripoli.

1587 — Mary Queen of Scots is beheaded after being accused of plotting murder of England's Queen Elizabeth I.

1725 — Russia's Peter the Great dies, succeeded by his widow, Catherine.

1787 — Indecisive battle at Eylau, Russia, between France and combined Russo-Prussian Army.

1809 — Austria's King Francis I decides on war with France.

1872 — Earl of Mayo, viceroy of India, is murdered.

1940 — Russian Bolsheviks capture Odessa.

1940 — During World War II, German Nazis shoot every tenth person in two Polish villages near Warsaw in reprisal for deaths of two German soldiers.

1949 — Eric Clapton declares it is unable to participate in Nato while Ireland remains divided.

1962 — US military council is established in South Vietnam.

1963 — Rebels in Baghdad, Iraq, assassinate Premier Abdul Karim Kassem who is replaced by Abdul Salam Arif.

1964 — Holland's Princess Irene renounces her rights to throne to marry Roman Catholic Spanish Prince, Carlos Hugo of Bourbon-Parme.

1974 — Three US Skylab astronauts return to earth after setting record of 84 days in orbit.

1975 — Soviet spacemen begin training with Americans for joint US-Soviet Apollo-Soyuz flights.

1987 — Heavy fighting rages between Palestinian commandos and Shiites militiamen around two battered refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon.



The population of Peshawar has multiplied due to the influx of Afghan refugees.

Gateway to Asia is now a dusty refugee capital

By Scheherezade Faramarzi

produced locally or imported from the West and Japan.

A 12-inch (30 cm) Soviet colour television sells for Rs 1,500 (\$160), compared with Rs 4,000 (\$228) for a Japanese set.

A Soviet-made washing machine costs Rs 2,200 (\$126). On the open market, where Soviet goods are not available, a washer costs Rs 2,200 (\$126).

A Pakistani shop owner who sells only Japanese and Western appliances

La Brea: world's largest deposit of ancient fossils

Sampling a slice of ice-age life in the pits

By Daniel B. Wood

LOS ANGELES: On a nondescript parcel of land in midtown Hancock Park here, George Jefferson dons hard-hat and boots beneath a piercing afternoon sun. The same solar rays that are gazing off Porsches and Mercedes headed for the posh salons of Beverly Hills nearby, are metamorphosing the hardened tar floor of "Pit 91" into a gooey mess.

Jefferson grabs the blackened ladder protruding like a straw from this 160-square-foot hole in the ground. And as he descends 13 feet into the earth, he delights that in a few seconds, he can escape the mundane trappings of modern life, for the (literal) trappings of the ice-age, 40,000 years ago.

"We've got the lower jaw of a saber cat, and the femur (shin bone) of a dire wolf," says Antonia Tejada Flores, kneeling with hammer and chisel on the pit's floor.

Bones of all shapes and sizes protrude from a one-square-yard cake of asphalt, cut about six inches deep, and set off by string. Scattered around the confines of Pit 91 are spatulas, paintbrushes, chisels, trowels, hammers, and dental equipment. Under Jefferson's curatorial tutelage, Ms. Flores, a paleontologist (studier of fossils), and two assistants, are scraping and dusting the bones, measuring their placement in a numbered grid. Then the bones are extracted and placed in manila envelopes or plastic bags, with precise measurements scribbled under nine categories.

The placement of each of the bones in layers of tar is crucial to understanding the exact history of the area, so well preserved here at the La Brea Tar Pits, the world's largest deposit of ice-age fossils.

"Here is a slice of life preserved like no place else in the world; everyone interested in geology or paleontology should visit," says Troy Pewe, a paleontologist at Arizona State University. "It's internationally known for the quantity and quality of specimens."



A supervisor holds the skull of a North American lion, a species now extinct, at the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles.

Every museum in the world gets specimens from there."

Besides the high number of fossilized bones — some 10,000 of one species of extinct wolf, for instance — La Brea is distinguished for the diversity of species present and for the high quality of preservation, from rodents to mammoths, because of the properties of tar. Well over a million fossils of over 360 species of plants and animals have been discovered here.

For the fourth consecutive year, the George C. Page Museum is continuing its public excavation of Pit 91, a key Los Angeles summer attraction and the only open fossil dig of its kind in an American city. Work on the pit had progressed steadily from 1969 to 1980 under the direction of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, with funds from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National History Foundation. Excavation stopped when funding ceased in 1981, but public donations allowed the project

to resume in 1984.

The paleontologists who retrieve, classify, and study the remains of plants and animals that were trapped here by asphalt-rich sediments are recording a complete record of life in this basin between 4,000 and 40,000 years ago. The results, they say when pressed for applications of their esoteric pursuits, help complete a story that has bearings on today's understanding of the environment and climate: What will be the effect of clearing much of the Amazonian rain forests? What levels of CO₂ can be accommodated before that gaseous waste product from automobiles affects plants and animals? How can we better manage our natural resources?

Some climatic event occurred here a few millennia ago and made a number of species of plants and animals extinct. What was it? Of course, that's the scientific side. "I just like finding the stuff," says Flores. "Half the appeal of paleontology is the allure of the treasure hunt, to be the first to set eyes on some-

thing that hasn't been seen in 30,000 years," she says, pointing out the fused, lower-back vertebrae of a dire wolf. With her accumulated knowledge and experience, Flores can identify an entire animal from a one- or two-inch fragment.

Jefferson, assistant curator at the Page Museum where the fossils are on display, echoes a similar sentiment. "There is a curious streak in humans that is kind of satisfied by things in the past like these mammoths, extinct sloths, and tapirs," he says.

"Ever since I was a kid, I picked up fossils and wanted to know why the plants they had then are not around anymore. To study it all is like traveling through time."

Contrary to popular beliefs, the "tar" pits are not tar at all, and did not act like huge, deep vats of quicksand. Crude oil, which occurs naturally below ground, surfaced through fissures and cracks. The oil evaporated and the remaining asphalt puddled up in stream beds and low-lying areas. Summer's heat dried the streams

and warmed the semi-solid asphalt to a gooey liquid.

Camouflaged by dust and leaves, the sticky surface trapped unwary animals like flypaper. Larger animals such as ground sloths, bison, and horses became trapped, luring other carnivorous animals and birds — vultures and condors. During winter, the asphalt became solid, and rain-swollen streams covered them with silt and sand, until summer liquefied the asphalt and reset the trap, forming layer after layer of asphalt, fossils, and sediment.

Excavation has gone on at this site for about 100 years. The larger bones are cleaned and combined like puzzle pieces into composite skeletons for the museum — saber cats, mammoths, tapirs, and sloths being the most well-known. Sediment collected here is saved as well.

Later on it is packed in screen baskets and boiled in solvent to reveal microfossils, seeds, small plant remains, and insect parts.

In recent years Pit 91 has revealed previously unknown bats, moles, snails, crustaceans, and microscopic plants called diatoms. In the early 1970s, scientists discovered the only coast redwood fossil ever found in the Santa Monica mountain region.

In 1914, the 9,000-year-old La Brea Woman, the only human skeleton ever discovered in the tar pits, was unearthed at an adjacent pit located in the same compound.

Now in its 10th year, the Page

Museum is "doing more projects with less money," according to Jefferson. A full-time staff of 20 is aided by 120 volunteers with public funding from Los Angeles County, and private fund from the Natural History Museum Foundation.

Plans include computerization to be better able to cross-analyze already existing data, and new graphic display digitizers that will save time measuring the positions of fossils within already excavated block of asphalt.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

Ancient clay tablets record daily life in Mesopotamia

By Paul Raeburn

NEW YORK: Archaeologists have discovered a large collection of 3,700-year-old Mesopotamian clay tablets that describe the capture and ransom of spies by rival city-states, the early use of horses in battle and the allocation of the royal wine supply.

The discovery of the 1,100 cuneiform tablets and seal impressions was reported at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Archaeologists by Harvey Weiss of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

The tablets were inscribed in northern Mesopotamia between 1740 B.C. to 1725 B.C., roughly the time when Hammurabi was issuing his famous code of laws in the city-state of Babylon, in southern Mesopotamia, said Weiss, an associate professor of Near Eastern archaeology and languages.

The discovery has gone on at this site for about 100 years. The larger bones are cleaned and combined like puzzle pieces into composite skeletons for the museum — saber cats, mammoths, tapirs, and sloths being the most well-known. Sediment collected here is saved as well.

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1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

tryside," he said.

"This is one of the earliest documentations of horse-mounted troops."

The letters also record the way kings of this period deployed scouts or spies to check on each other's activities, how they were sometimes captured and how treaties were entered into for their return through the payment of ransom," Weiss said.

About one-third of the tablets are letters between northern Mesopotamian kings, some not known until now. The other two-thirds are administrative documents that record financial transactions and "the distribution of what was one of the most precious commodities — the supply," Weiss said.

Record

Many of the documents are dated by year, month and day, providing a detailed glimpse of daily life in the palace, he said.

Among the details recorded in the letters are descriptions of brigands roaming in rural areas who posed a threat to the urban communities, Weiss said.

One of the letters records the dispatch of horse-mounted troops to remove these brigands from the coun-

The grave itself, some 5½ yards long, is much bigger than the largest previously known Iron Age burial, a similar two-wheeled chariot grave which was found at Garton Station.

Lifting problems
Lifting the Kirkburn warrior and his now-fragile armor is posing problems for Dr Ian Stead of the British Museum and the excavation team.

Dr Stead said: "We're going to have the greatest difficulty in lifting it. At the moment we don't know what lies underneath the skeleton but it would not surprise me if we find a sword in a scabbard."

"It really is an exciting find."

"What we are now excavating is undoubtedly the earliest chain mail grave of the period in Britain and as early as anything yet found in Europe."

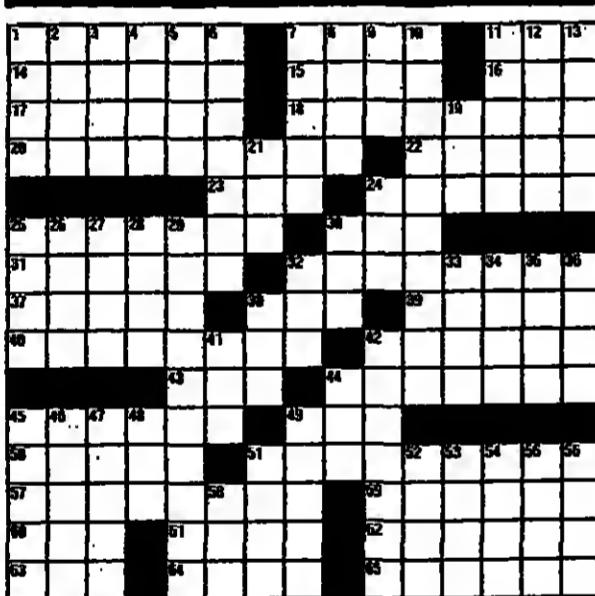
Warrior found in Iron Age grave

ancient burial site known as Garton Station.

The Kirkburn skeleton is crouching on the top of the dismantled wheels of a chariot. The chain mail, which is composed of iron links, stretches from the shoulders to the knees.

The chariot fittings include iron and bronze lynch pins with finely decorated terminals.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 No, for one
- 2 Trunk item
- 3 Break the tape
- 4 Belong intrinsically
- 5 even keel
- 6 Equal: Prefix
- 7 Ammonic derivatives
- 8 Got rid of
- 9 Act of 1941
- 10 Whither
- 11 Aardvark's morsel
- 12 Keaton and Sawyer
- 13 Keyboard instrument
- 14 Took the bait
- 15 AM eye-openers?
- 16 Asked for boldly
- 17 Heavenly sustenance
- 18 Succor
- 19 Head for the door
- 20 Curling one's lip
- 21 Typewriter roller
- 22 Plaything
- 23 The upper hand
- 24 Siberian supernatural practitioner
- 25 Bogey beater
- 26 Of musical pitch
- 27 Divides
- 28 Implores
- 29 Lower in rank
- 30 Victory sign
- 31 Role for Liz
- 32 Blue-pencil wielder
- 33 Curved letter
- 34 Do-it-yourselfers' purchases
- 35 Squirrel or beaver
- 36 DOWN
- 37 Use the phone

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

COMING IN ONE BY ONE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ 7 4
♥ 8 6 5 3
♦ K 9 2
♣ A K 6 3

WEST

♦ Void

♥ Q J 10 7 2

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ Q J 10 7

♦ 9 5

EAST

♦ Q J 10 9 8

♥ A J 9 4

♦ 7 5

♣ 9 5

SOUTH

♦ A K 6 5 3 2

♥ Void

♦ A 8 6 4

♣ 8 4 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Dbl Rdbl 2 ♥

2 ♠ 3 ♥ 3 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass Pass Dbl

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

It is all too easy to give up hope when you encounter a devastating trump break. But rather than meekly lowering the flag, you should look around for a way to overcome adversity.

It might seem that South had taken leave of his senses during the auction—after all, how many bids should you take on 11 points? However, if North's points were outside the heart suit, as the auction strongly implied, then South realized that

the combined bidding would offer play for game. East, looking at three sure trump tricks, an ace and facing a partner who not only made a takeout double but freely raised hearts, could hardly restrain himself when the auction reached four spades.

West led the king of hearts, ruffed by declarer. When the trump king revealed that there were three trump losers, declarer might have been forgiven for throwing in the towel. East's trump holding was so strong that his ruffing in front of declarer would not have hurt him—discarding a minor-suit loser would have been of no help to declarer. After careful study, South saw a way to get home—East had to have started with exactly two cards in each minor suit.

Declarer used the ace-king of clubs as entries to ruff two more hearts. After cashing the ace of diamonds, declarer crossed to the king of diamonds and ruffed the table's last heart as East followed helplessly. Declarer had nine tricks in the bag, and the ace of trumps was the fulfilling trick. At the end, declarer conceded three tricks to West's minor-suit winners and three to East's master trumps. Unfortunately for the defenders, declarer had telescoped his losers into the same three tricks!

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THE WIZARD OF ID

B.C.



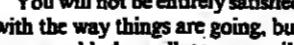
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

YOUR STARS



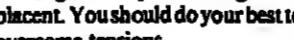
Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will not be entirely satisfied with the way things are going, but you would do well to reconcile yourself to the situation. For once there are certain things that were better left for a little while longer.



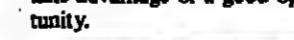
Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will have something to be pleased about but there is nothing to be gained by becoming complacent. You should do your best to overcome tensions.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Do not expect others to do what you would yourself wish to be respected in their place. You will be able to do something to assist a friend of yours.



By Robin Wright

THE US Press and Iran: Foreign Policy and the Journalism of Defe, by William A. Dorman and Mansour Farhang. Berkeley: University of California Press, 272 pp, \$29.95.

In 1920, columnist Walter Lippmann admonished his colleagues, "Misleading news is worse than none at all."

Mr Lippmann's warning is the prelude of "The US Press and Iran: Foreign Policy and the Journalism of Defe", a book that can be read on three levels.

It provides a thoughtful history of Iran in the postwar era, when the United States replaced Britain as the main Western influence and turned the oil-rich Gulf nation into one of the most important client states the US has ever had.

It also dissects the press's performance during almost three decades of US involvement in Iran and its contribution to a foreign policy failure "second only to Vietnam."

Most interesting, however, is the analysis of the interrelationship between foreign policy and the press during the "age of media politics," a period when "the first draft of popular history is composed by mainstream journalists."

Authors William Dorman and Mansour Farhang generally conclude, "The case of Iran offers compelling new evidence for the contention that the press, far from fulfilling the watchdog role assigned it in democratic theory or popular imagination, is deferential rather than adversative in the foreign policy arena."

"As a result of generally uninformed and often highly ethnocentric, cold-war-oriented coverage of Iran over the years and particularly in 1978, the American public was taught many damaging lessons that may take years to unlearn."

"The US Press and Iran" is particularly good on three crucial junctures between 1951 and 1979. The first was the CIA's involvement in the 1953 coup that overthrew Prime Minister Mohammad Mosadegh and reinstated Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi on the Peacock Throne — "the first such 'successful' operation in CIA history."

Despite telltale evidence, the

Misleading news

Authors William Dorman and Mansour Farhang dissect the US press's involvement in Iran over three decades and conclude that 'as a result of generally uninformed and often highly ethnocentric coverage of Iran over the years and particularly in 1978, the American public was taught many damaging lessons that may take years to unlearn.'



Iranian women protest against US media distortion of events in Iran. The authors Dorman and Farhang maintain that American journalism misunderstood the upheaval in the country.

story was not revealed until a year later — and then in an unlikely source, The Saturday Evening Post. The CIA role, which established the basis for anti-Americanism so prevalent in the rhetoric of Tehran's theocrats today, was not picked up by the mainstream press for more than two decades.

Virtually no news outlet probed the coup or foresaw the potential impact.

The second juncture was the Shah's introduction in 1963 of a modernisation plan called the "White Revolution", which in turn sparked clergy-led opposition. The US press generally portrayed modernisation as a "fairy tale" or a model for the third world and opposition to it as Marxist or religious fanaticism.

The journalistic distortion resulted in large part from the failure to understand that what the Shah was engaged in was not progressive reform, but instead an attempt to graft bits

and pieces of advanced industrial capitalism onto a pre-industrial society while at the same time preserving his royal dictatorship," the authors explain. "In the midst of modernisation the despotic character of the Iranian monarchy became more rigid than ever."

And the clergy's opposition was not because it was inherently antimodern — a conception still dominant in the US today — but rather because of concern about the impact of Westernisation, which had become synonymous with modernisation, on traditional values. Reports in the Monitor and occasional articles in magazines such as The Nation were the exception to this pattern in covering the Shah's repression and growing opposition after 1963.

After the 1973 oil embargo, the press did become more critical of the Shah, notably on human rights violations. But even after conceding that Iran was a

police state, the Washington Post claimed, "Nevertheless, the great majority of Iranians all but worship him."

The third juncture was the 1978-79 revolution, which the authors argue "was probably the most popular in modern history."

"Yet, again despite the evidence, the upheaval was not foreseen. The press had no hint that the centrepiece of US geopolitical strategy in the third world was so hollow that it would collapse in the face of an unarmed and largely peaceful challenge," Dorman and Farhang write.

And after it happened, the upheaval was misunderstood. American journalism saw the revolutionaries as "given to blind faith in a profoundly irrational, antimodernist religion that appealed to man's darkest and basest instincts ... the same or similar qualities in Iranian revolutionaries which were repugnant to American journalists were ignored or transformed into virtues when the subject at hand was (Islamic) resistance to the Soviets in Afghanistan."

The authors are an interesting combination. Dorman is a professor of journalism at California State University, while Farhang was revolutionary Iran's first ambassador to the United Nations. Now a professor of politics at Bennington College, he resigned from the UN post in protest over Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's refusal to comply with UN recommendations on releasing the American hostages held in Iran between 1979 and 1981. Their views, while compatible with revisionist history of the Shah's era, will be uncomfortable reading for those conditioned by press stereotypes.

The implications of their case study are ominous for both foreign policy and the press. "The foreign policy bureaucracy, as it is now constituted, seems remarkably incapable of the types of understanding demanded by changing conditions in the third world," they conclude.

And for US journalism, the authors offer a warning: "Our argument is that the press has an important responsibility to bear if the legitimate interests of the US are to be pursued in future Irans and future Irans there are certain to be."

The Christian Science Monitor.

Despite telltale evidence, the

Men of war

By Richard Heller

ALEXANDER the Great conquered an empire larger than Europe. His technology was no better than the enemies' whose numbers were superior, but in conquest his generalship was unsurpassed.

The heroic commander is the most charismatic of the four generals examined by John Keegan, the eminent military historian, in a fascinating book *The Mask Of Command*.

Keegan argues that all generals need to establish personal authority to obtain the right to ask people to meet exceptional demands in warfare. And he identifies two styles of commander.

The heroic who obtain obedience by persuading their followers to believe they possess exceptional personal qualities, especially physical courage and willingness to share the rigours of battle.

And the unheroic who display personal courage only under necessity. They downplay their personalities, obtaining respect and obedience by the calm display of managerial and technical skill — and by success.

Alexander is Keegan's exam-



Wellington (left) despised Napoleon for being theatrical although he respected his professional skill.

ple of supremely heroic leadership. His unheroic commanders are Wellington and General Grant. Both had physical courage, but thought that they had a duty to preserve their lives, since no one else was fit to command their armies.

Genuine hero

Wellington despised Napoleon for being theatrical (though he respected his professional skill). He prided himself on his detachment from the drama of battle and the rewards of success.

Grant was another un-dramatic general. He regarded himself simply as an instrument of President Lincoln. He had a high (and justified) regard for his military ability, but no personal ambition except to be a gentleman farmer and live at home with his wife.

As a common soldier Hitler was a genuine hero. As supreme commander he used organised, systematic lying to create a myth of heroic leadership around himself.

He used this to browbeat his officers and insist on his own ideas. In the early stages of the war he was right or lucky. Later on the myth served only to extort useless suffering and sacrifice while Hitler himself

retreated into fantasy, mouthed interminable boring harangues over feasts of jam tarts.

Commanders can exert a unique hold on the imagination. There are more biographies of Napoleon than of any other human being. But we can't expect to see any more great generals. The advent of nuclear war has rendered the

traditional qualities of great generalship irrelevant, useless or lethal.

Personal heroism will be no use to a general under orders to hide in the deepest possible hunker and survive for the longest possible time.

The Mask Of Command, Jonathan Cape, £12.95.

'HAY FEVER' A CATCHALL TERM FOR ALLERGIES

QUESTION: Is it possible to have hay fever and not be allergic to pollen?

ANSWER: Although the term "hay fever" usually is associated with the abrupt sneezing, sniffing and stuffy-head symptoms brought on by the seasonal release of pollen, it's actually a catchall term for inherited sensitivities people have to any inhaled airborne substance. For instance, tree pollens are active in early spring, grasses in the summer and weeds in the fall. But people who are allergic to molds, animal dander and dust suffer all year long.

The list of allergy-causing particles is endless. They can be found in the workplace as well as the typical home. They range from insecticides, cigarette smoke, plaster, newsprint and glue to microscopic particles of linen and wool in common household dust.

If you are one of those who suffer from allergies, the best line of defense is to avoid contact with these substances. This means keeping a spotless house, storing chemicals away from the living area and perhaps banning Fido to the great outdoors. If all else fails, medication or immunotherapy (allergy

shots) may give lasting relief.

QUESTION: I've just found out that I'm pregnant. Is it OK to continue with my aerobics dancing classes? If not, what kinds of exercise can I do through my pregnancy?

ANSWER: If you have a low-risk pregnancy, then it will be helpful to continue to exercise; but strenuous aerobics dancing isn't advised.

Pregnant women should avoid any sustained highly strenuous exercise, such as sprinting which could reduce the flow of oxygenated blood to the fetus. There are many activities which I would recommend for the pregnant women. They include brisk walking, tennis and badminton, calisthenics, yoga, swimming, stretching, bowling, bicycling, volleyball, racquetball, softball, cross-country skiing, ice and roller skating, golf, light dancing and moderate jogging.

Continuing to exercise during pregnancy can be beneficial in most cases. The trained body has better cardiovascular fitness. It also has the reserves to meet the demand of a difficult work load, and that includes labour

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and delivery.

QUESTION: Isn't laser eye surgery better than regular surgery?

ANSWER: Laser surgery is performed by using a fine, controlled, intense beam of light to cut, seal or dissolve tissue. Cataracts cannot be removed by laser but a condition sometimes appears after regular cataract surgery. The back part of the lens capsule is normally left in the eye and it may become cloudy and blur vision. Laser surgery then is performed to take away that cloudiness and restore sharp vision. People who have glaucoma that is not being controlled with eyedrops or other medication sometimes can have their conditions improved by having laser surgery to open the drainage channels. Lasers also are used to seal leaking blood vessels that cause vision problems in people with diabetes or muscular degeneration. But because lasers may not be useful in all surgical procedures it is best to take your physician's advice on just what technique is best for you.

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Mary McCarthy remembers her adolescence

'A bright wild girl from Seattle'

By Ferdinand Mount

OBSSESSION with schooldays is widely supposed to be a failing confined to English middle-class men. Elsewhere, we are told, adults put childish things behind them. Only the English bourgeois male is trapped in an eternal adolescence, unable to forget being bullied in the Lower Fourth or failure to get into some exclusive college society.

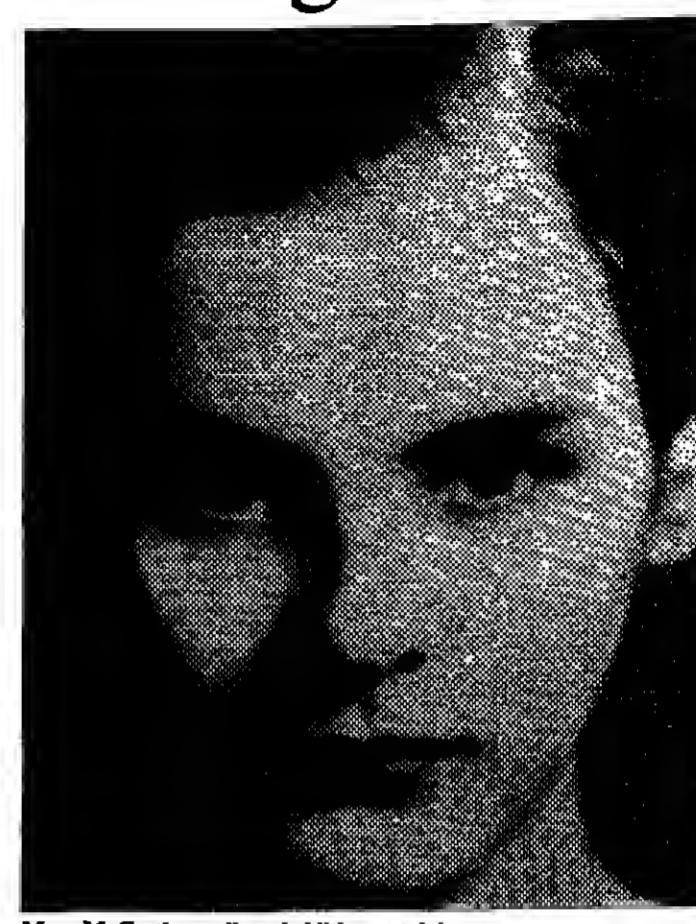
But as so often, when American women take up something, they do it with knobs on. Not since Cyril Connolly described being elected to Pop at Eton can anyone have written so romantically of social success in the groves of academe as Mary McCarthy does of the times she "made" Phi Beta Kappa at Vassar: "One morning in the tower, I heard my name called from below and looking down from my window, I saw the whole group making signs to me and clapping." Bliss, was it in that dawn...

This is quite unlike the sort of fashionable memoir that would be written nowadays on this side of the Atlantic about the horrors of adolescence. Miss McCarthy wallows with the nostalgia in the ups and downs of her college friendships, her triumphs and disasters in college plays and her manœuvres to elect her fancy as May Queen.

Personally, although I am only dimly aware of what Phi Beta Kappa is or of the difference between a sophomore and an underclassman, I am a sucker for this kind of thing, having a taste for "that atmosphere of intrigue, rivalry, scandal, favouritism, tyranny and revolt that is common to all girls' boarding-schools and that makes "real" life afterwards seem a long and improbable armistice, a cessation of the true anguish of adolescence."

That was how Miss McCarthy described her earliest existence at the Sacred Heart Convent in "Memories of a Catholic Girlhood" (still available in Penguin). This new volume is filled as the first instalment of her autobiography, but in reality it starts where "Girlhood" leaves off, at the age of 12, and it mentions only glancingly the extraordinary story told in that minor classic of autobiography.

McCarthy's parents had both died in the great influenza epidemic of 1918, within a week of each other, victims of that most terrible of all plagues since the Black



Mary McCarthy: wallows in blithe nostalgia

Death (it killed more than 20 million people across the world).

They were a gay, handsome and charming couple. Their death abandoned Mary and her three brothers to the erratic mercies of a very mixed bunch of grandparents and aunts who were none of these things.

Some were Catholic, some Protestant, some Jewish; only quality they had in common was bigotry. The McCarthy children were beaten, bullied and starved, while at the same time being patronised and sermonised about how grateful they ought to be to their guardians.

Atheism

No wonder Mary quickly discovered atheism. She wrote about those years with a jaunty irony, but such a childhood inevitably left its mark. As she says here:

"Laughter is a great antidote for self-pity, maybe a specific for the malady. Yet probably it does tend to dry one's feelings out a little, as if by exposing them to a vigorous wind. So that something must be subtracted from the compensation I have received for injuries sustained. There is no dampness in my emotions, and some moisture, I think, is needed to produce the deeper, the tragic notes."

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McCarthy thus had more reason than most for throwing herself wholeheartedly into the life of the Annie Wright Seminary in Tacoma, all the crushes and vendettas, the Principal with her ready tears and her golden rule "M.C.G."

— make conversation general and the English riding master, Major Mathews, who gathered violets in his hat and once cut her a bunch of flowering dog-

wood in the woods outside Tacoma.

Miss McCarthy's recall is remarkable, not least of the books they read in their mid-teens at an unremarkable school in the Far West in the late 1920s. Goldini, Sallust, Nietzsche, "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight," "Idylls of the King." I wonder if high school seniors in Seattle get through the same sort of reading list.

Then at Vassar, "a bright wild girl from Seattle," as she coyly describes herself, she did her best to find university life "brittle, smart and a little empty" — in the intoxicating words of her future husband, her mentor at this period. It sounds as if she was well able to keep her end up with the New York debutantes whose trilling, cawing voices echoed across the quadrangles and along the corridors.

Half-way through her time there, the stock market crashed. Cool, glamorous Ginny Johnston, whose future in-laws gave her as an engagement present a silver-grey Pierce-Arrow touring-car with a folding bar and ice chest, came back from her honeymoon to find that the family had been ruined and they had to move into the chauffeur's flat over the garage. If you enjoyed "The Group," you will like "How I Grew" too.

Remains

Yet what remains in my mind from the book is less the college capers than a poignant picture of a dark, nervous girl snuggling into the bosom of maternally teachers and being infallibly attracted to pipe-smoking older men who treated her meanly. It is the teachers who are the heroines of the book, dedicated, high minded, occasionally ludicrous and lachrymose women, but also affectionate and true — the two qualities which she found the world otherwise decidedly short of. Miss Wright, not Mr Right.

Being an actress manqué, Mary McCarthy was always keenly conscious of the dramatic potential of orphan hood. She did not shrink from exploiting the classic heroine's position of being suddenly parentless and unnumbered. She ran away from her cruel guardians. She threatened suicide, not meaning it. She had her share of adventures. But she never tries to deceive us, or herself. Being an orphan is not all it is cracked up to be.

HOW I GREW by Mary McCarthy, Weidenfeld, 278pp, £14.95.

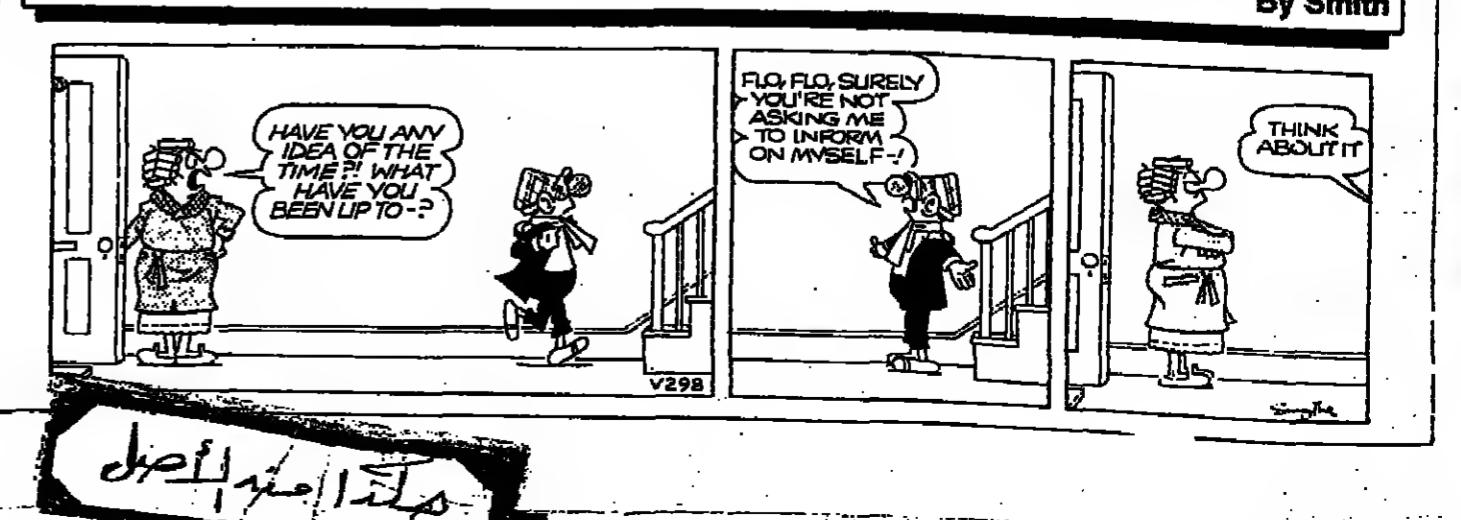
Facsimile edition of the Hildebrand Lied published

Early German poem survives



The 'Hildebrand Lied,' dating from the early Middle Ages is the most precious item in the Kassel collection. The Brothers Grimm (to the right of the showcard) published an academic edition of this

ANDY CAPP



Andy Capp

Renewed interest in Dutch artist's personality disorders

Psychiatrists put Van Gogh on the couch

Virtually ignored by both the mental health and artistic communities, Vincent van Gogh is now an institution in both circles. And just as the record-breaking sale of one of his later paintings shook the art world, Van Gogh's psyche recently created a minor stir among psychiatrists.

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO (UPI): When art aficionados view Vincent Van Gogh's "Irises," they see a brilliant depiction in oil of a bed of purple-blue flowers. When investors examine the 2-foot, 4-inch by 3-foot canvas, they see \$53.9 million.

But when psychiatrists pour over the angry brush strokes and aggressive composition — of the sun-flecked, windblown irises grown in an asylum garden — they see a deeply disturbed individual.

"Vincent has always aroused keen interest in the psychiatric community," says Dr John Curtis, of Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, adding, "He could have used more help when he was alive."

Virtually ignored by both the mental health and artistic communities, Van Gogh is now an institution in both circles. And just as the record-breaking sale of one of his later paintings shook the art world, Van Gogh's psyche recently created a minor stir among psychiatrists.

At a meeting of specialists



Sunflowers by Vincent van Gogh

treating multiple personality disorders, Curtis presented evidence that Van Gogh suffered from either a split personality or a mood disorder so severe it often made him behave like two different people.

"I think it's clear he suffered from some sort of dissociative disorder," Curtis says. "He had all the classic symptoms."

Other experts on split personality, while not quick to embrace Curtis' theory, are neither quick to reject it.

"Fundamentally, of course, it's unprovable," said Dr Bennett Braun, the Chicago psychiatrist who organised the dissociative disorders conference. "But it is intriguing, isn't it?"



Van Gogh's 'Irises' sold for \$53.9 million; the record-breaking sale shook the art world.

Bowyer's craft

BOWYER Ronald Craft carefully shapes the riser for a Mirage bow while Robin Robeson measures the bracing height to the throat of the riser on a new bow at a workshop in the grounds of Melersians House, the home of the Earl and Duchess of Haddington, in the Scottish border country.

Mr Robeson and the Earl, who is a member of the Queen's Body Guard for Scotland, Royal Company of Archers, are partners in a small company which includes bowyers who have been developing the techniques of their craft since the 1940s. They make high-quality hand-made bows, sculptured in exotic hardwoods, for the world's archers from novices to champions.

The bows, which are renowned for their reliability and performance, range from traditional English long bows to very sophisticated modern target bows.

Features include draw weights up to 150lbs. The Mirage series bows draw weights up to 65lbs; no draw limit; physical weight 3lbs 30z; bushed twin stabilisers 1/4"; counter balance 1/4" and long rod 5/16"; left and right banded, and thumb rest on grip.



High-quality hand-made bows sculptured in exotic hardwoods, for the world's archers from novices to champions.

Arch restoration reveals mistakes of the past

By Barry Moody

ROME (Reuters): After eight years of painstaking work, experts have almost completed restoring the ancient Roman arch of Septimius Severus — but they discovered many modern methods were more likely to destroy a monument than save it.

The magnificent triumphal arch in the ancient Roman forum was completed in AD 203 to celebrate the Emperor Septimius Severus' destruction of the Parthians after a 30-year war in part of what is modern Iran.

The arch, using techniques developed by Rome's military engineers, was built in two years by architects and craftsman working around the clock.

Even invisible parts are beautifully finished and it is covered with intricate sculpture.

Lettering on top of the arch reveals an ancient crime. Septimius Severus' son Caracalla had his brother Geta's name erased and overwritten after he was murdered, but marks left by the original inscription can still be traced.

The ravages of acid rain have destroyed more of the monument in a few years than 17 centuries of wear and abuse, and its survival was seriously threatened.

Before restoration work began in 1979 much of the marble had turned to plaster and many of the arch's beautiful sculptures had literally been washed away.

Roberto Nardi, the young Italian expert in charge of the restoration, said much of the marble was like a plastic bag filled with sugar. If the surface was broken, the marble inside would just crumble.

He said 90 per cent of the original outer surface on the side facing the forum has disappeared. In many places, where there was once intricate sculpture of bearded warriors and

battle scenes, there is now only smooth stone.

Nardi's team of 18 experts established that many preservation or restoration techniques irreversibly damage ancient monuments.

In the past, concrete and later resins were used to preserve ancient monuments. But they were harder than the original marble and caused it to crack and decay.

Nardi said during a recent tour of the arch: "Restoration is a two-edged sword. Done well it can save a monument,

but this is rare. Done badly it destroys the rest of the monument and this is common. We therefore need to be cautious and go slowly."

He was scathing about some notable mistakes in Rome, saying the Antonine column, restored in 1956 with then fashionable resins and silicones, had been severely damaged.

"Now the monument is largely silicone surrounded by marble," he said bitterly.

After what Nardi acknowledged as errors in the first three or four years of restoration,

Restoring Turkey's artistic heritage

By E. Michael Myers

ISTANBUL, Turkey: On a terrace overlooking the charming blue Bosphorus, Celik Gulersoy struggles to save pearls of history and architecture from the bulldozers.

"Culture and nature are truly the only things our nation has to offer to tourists," he said. "Once the nature is destroyed, you cannot recreate it."

Gulersoy, 57, is leading the drive to preserve and rebuild Istanbul's treasures of architecture and nature — one of which is the Malta Pavilion in Yildiz Park overlooking the Bosphorus.

The living arrangements and both artistic temperaments culminated with Van Gogh going after Gauguin with a butcher knife.

But Gauguin related, "I must have looked at him with a very commanding eye because he stopped, lowered his head and ran back toward the Bosphorus."

"Animals were inside, the gardens were overgrown," he said.

Gulersoy is director general of the touring and automobile association of Turkey, a private organisation that handles vehicle custom taxes for the government. Since 1971 he has directed a portion of its proceeds into ambitious cultural restoration projects. It is an endless challenge.

Beyond the luxuriant green park and its walkways and ponds, Istanbul sprawls over treeless hills.

Rich

Many of its rich Byzantium and Ottoman Turk splendours have faded from neglect or fallen to the conquest of cinder block development, roads, and the furnaces of internal combustion engines. The city's timeless, old harmony, its aesthetic qualities, have suffered.

Gulersoy, the son of a Turkish military commander, is a self-taught historian, an artist of both colours and language, a lawyer, and patrician workhorse.

With a gentle voice, rigid backbone and impeccable tastes, he is directing the fight to curb the sweep of urban development and to restore Istanbul's treasures.

He has an annual budget of about \$1 million, generated by customs and registration taxes on automobiles leaving and entering Turkey.

The association, founded in 1923, oversees the highway border customs administration and paperwork for the state.

Under the financial and cultural guidance of Gulersoy,

a portion of the revenues go to restore imperial palaces, parks, mosques, churches, markets, old hotels, Ottoman mansions, and simple frame homes on the borders of historic grounds.

The projects include building small restaurants, tea rooms and cafes near museums and other cultural attractions — such as converting a vast, thousand-year-old Roman cistern near St. Sophia (it was being used as a private automobile repair shop) into a cool restaurant.

Turkey, its past and future, and visitors from around the world are the beneficiaries of the ambitions and pride of Gulersoy and the touring association.

As a student, Gulersoy saw the imperial palaces of Germany, Italy, France, and England. He lives in a relatively poor but developing country with the problems of population growth and demands for housing.

Gulersoy and his allies in business and government work for a balance between development and preserving imperial palaces and cultural treasures that rival anything in Europe. It is a delicate balance.

"We must educate the young people in the importance of history and nature," Gulersoy said.

"A problem in an underdeveloped country is there is no educated populace" to fight against blind development.

"There is a danger of destroying thousands of years of heritage overnight. Development shouldn't be done out of context. So many buildings have been torn down to be replaced by concrete blocks."

"If you destroy a strip of small buildings to make a big road, then the buildings by the side of the road look ridiculous. There are better ways to handle traffic."

Yildiz Park, once the private preserve for Ottoman Sultans and part of a great forest stretching far beyond the shore of the Bosphorus, is virtually closed to vehicular traffic. The association was granted control of the overgrown, neglected park.

On the ground floor of the pavilion today there is a cafe. The upper rooms serve as conference halls, furnished with original artifacts from the days of the Ottoman empire — oil paintings of old Istanbul from the antiquarian market, a bazaar chandelier, and a large Oriental carpet.

Turning garbage into art

By Robert Mahoney

Chandigarh, India. Reuter: After years of secretly collecting old toilet bowls, broken bangles and bits of rock, Nel Chand finally made it.

Not as a scrap merchant, but as an internationally acclaimed sculptor who has been compared to such modern giants as Max Ernst and John Miro.

Each night after work 12 years Chand, a self-effacing city employee, hoarded rubbish on a secluded plot of land.

Far from prying eyes he built a garden filled with strange rocks and fantastic figures fashioned from junk.

Such is the international interest in Chand's work that the Washington Children's Museum had him build a smaller version in the American capital two years ago.

Chand's 12-acre (five-hectare) garden is now the greatest attraction in Chandigarh, the garden city built by French architect Le Corbusier as capital of Punjab state in the 1950s.

Chand, a devout Hindu, has converted scrap into life-like figures.

More than 20,000 sculptures sprout from rock formations, grottoes, waterfalls, canals and bridges which Chand and his wife started building in 1958.

On taking a closer look at the figures visitors often blink in amazement.

A hat turns out to be broken teacup, a arm a piece of an old procelain toilet bowl.

Chand is not just an eccentric snapper-up of cast-offs.

According to some art critics he is an untutored genius. The Smithsonian magazine linked his works to those of Miro and Ernst.

The French government hired him to build an exhibit at the Paris Museum of Modern Art in 1980.

The man himself is shy, soft-spoken and slightly bewildered by the highbrow attention his garden has attracted.

"I have had no training in art, in drawing. Everything is in my brain, it is God's gift to me," Chand said.

The 62-year-old former city road inspector works to no real plan and gets ideas once he has started working with the material. And what material.

Scrap

"Waste is just lying around, I started carrying scrap home on my bicycle and the garden just grew from there," he said.

Chand and his wife illegally took over a plot of deserted government land and built a mud hut from which to work.

"I was afraid that somebody might see what I was doing and shunt me out but I continued in secret for 12 years.

"Then it came to light and government officers came over here to look and they liked it."

Chand's surreal creation went down so well that the government took it over and opened it to the public 11 years ago.

Today more than 2,000 people a day thread their way through the narrow passages between soft-curved boulders and ranks of human and animal statues.

Chand has more than 200 workers to help him with the garden which he plans to expand to 60 acres (24 hectares) by the early 1990s.

He no longer needs to scavenge as people now bring their scrap and industrial waste to him. But he still likes to go out to the nearby Himalayan foothills to collect interesting rocks.

In the right setting and with a little imagination the natural formations in the rock take on recognisable forms.

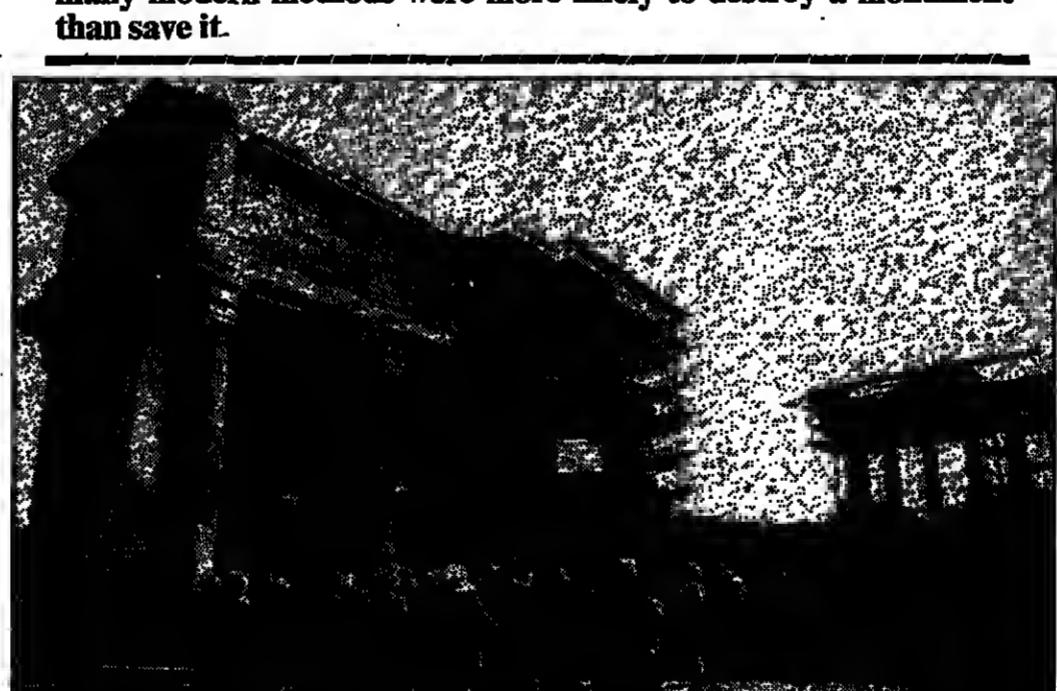
Beside the boulders Chand makes whole mosaic walls and figures with bits of broken china, glass bangles, neon tubes, clinkers, and plastic cutouts from an electric plug factory.

Glass bottles and tin cans are not much in evidence as they are never thrown away in India but sold.

Behind the garden, tons of sculptures and hundreds of rag dummies of people and animals wait in sheds for a place to be displayed.

Chand does not want to be called an artist but he does believe he has breathed life into his creations. He prefers to call his project "The Kingdom of Gods and Goddesses" rather than its official name, Chandigarh Rock Garden.

He has forced visitors to bow frequently to the deities by constructing a series of deliberately low archways along the winding path through the rock maze.



The 1,700-year-old triumphal arch of Septimius Severus in Rome's ancient forum which is nearly restored, although experts say the arch has lost 90 per cent of its outside surface to acid rain and erosion.

battle scenes, there is now only smooth stone.

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He was scathing about some notable mistakes in Rome, saying the Antonine column, restored in 1956 with then fashionable resins and silicones, had been severely damaged.

"Now the monument is largely silicone surrounded by marble," he said bitterly.

After what Nardi acknowledged as errors in the first three or four years of restoration,

which required long periods of correction, his team decided that the only way to preserve the arch was to use the same natural breathing materials as the ancient Romans.

To repair everything from tiny cracks to big fissures the team has used various consistencies of filler and mortar made from water mixed with marble dust, volcanic rock, brick fragments and sand.

It was vital that the materials should be "self-sacrificing" so that they declined rather than

completed until next year.

Nardi's team has completed 90 percent of the restoration of the west half of the arch. Now their funding, from the Italian government, has run out so that the final 10 percent will not be

completed until next year.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Big investors expect an economic upturn

Market's internal health not yet strong enough

ECONOMISTS are still undecided how the October Crash will affect oil prices which are crucial to the performance of Kuwait's stockmarket as a whole. Opinions range from a continued local recession to a slight upward surge, but any strategy for dealing in Kuwaiti stocks is subject to change with the next swing of oil prices or a pick up in the value of the US dollar.

The few eager investors that remain were encouraged by the market's strength in mid December and belief that it might have set the stage for a rally that could take the Kuwait Index to 310, maybe even 330.

This is a minority view, however, since the vast majority think that 1988 will be a dull year citing the size of Kuwait's budget deficit and the high rates of interest on Kuwait Treasury Bonds which will inevitably siphon funds out of the equity market.

Yet even in dull years, there are winning stocks and market sectors that outperform the index. In fact, dull markets are exactly the time to accumulate shares at discount prices and hold on to them for the long term.

Study

This is shown by a study of the Kuwait Stock Exchange Total Return Index, tracked by Amwaj Research, which shows a return of 248.5 per cent over the past twelve years. This shows that Kuwait market has outperformed most of the world's major markets during this period, with the exception of Japan.

Even the great Kuwait Market Crash of 1982-83 hasn't dented the long term performance too badly.

Anyone who bought a diversified portfolio of stocks in January 1986 after the market touched bottom would now be showing a compounded annual return of over 21 per cent, which is excellent by any standards.

So far there has been no really broad rally in the local market.

Khalaf Al Jassim, Equities Manager at Kuwait Securities House,

says that the internal health of the market is not yet strong enough for a sustained rise.

On balance, more money is coming out of stocks than is going in.

Khalaf suggests that large trading firms will be reluctant to take on large inventories of stock for a long time to come. "Those firms are never the engines of a bull market," says Khalaf, "but they certainly roll off the wheels."

Cash

Nevertheless, there's plenty of cash around and bank accounts are waiting to be spent on stocks.

"When confidence returns, there are a lot of good opportunities in the Kuwait market," says Khaledoun Al Ghanaim, a financial adviser at Merrill Lynch, Kuwait. All the same, many investors are staying on the sidelines and adopting a wait-and-see attitude.

Most accounts are 70 per cent in cash and 30 per cent in shares of financial institutions and other basic service stocks that benefit from a falling dollar. Wherever they can, investors are reluctant to commit new funds to the stock market, even though stocks look cheap when compared to a few months ago. Yet history shows that when markets are dull, it is time to think about buying.

Speculative stocks could make a return to favour in 1988 after a drop in oil prices, recovery stocks

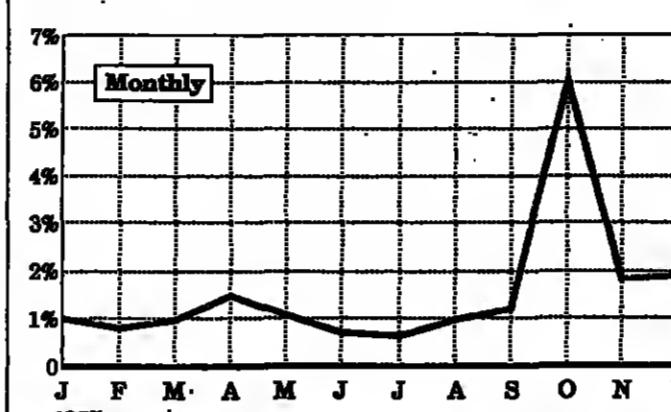
being the biggest casualties of the 1982-83 market crash.

Some aggressive money managers believe that such stocks won't stay down and out for long and that 1988 may see speculative attention being paid to restructuring and depressed industrial stocks.

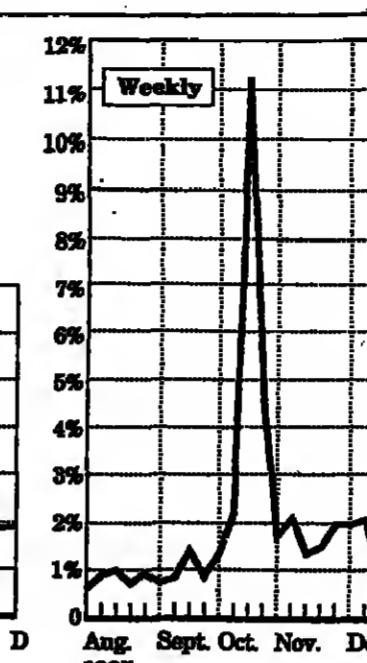
Big investors are already focusing on small companies. Rashid Al Omar, an independent investment analyst, says that such out-of-favour stocks "have hit their historic lows after lagging behind the market for the past five years." As a result he is

The Stock Market's Greater Volatility Since the Crash

Changes in the Dow Jones Industrial Average have fluctuated more since October than they did before the crash



Note: The percentages indicate the deviation of daily changes from the average percentage change for each period.



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Rashid fancies Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repair Yard at 47 fils, down 69 per cent from its 1982 high. United Fisheries which is on a P/E of nine and down 94 per cent from its 1982 high, Kuwait Cement down 30 per cent in 1987 and down 88 per cent from its 1982 high with a P/E of 18.6.

Despite their poor market per-

formance these companies all have strong balance sheets, reasonable price-to-book-value ratios and decent cash flows according to Rashid.

Moreover, the companies "operate in reasonably protected and dynamic market sectors." Interestingly, Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repair Yard is trading at its lowest ever price and yet stands to gain a lot from political events in the area with regard to oil tankers and ships needing critical repairs and maintenance work.

Provided by Amwaj Research.

Merac offers comprehensive marketing consultancy service



Chris Thomas

BAHRAIN-based Middle East Research and Consultancy Limited (Merac), whose growing client list includes emergent local manufacturers as well as blue-chip international companies have expanded their range of marketing research services by appointing Chris Thomas as Projects Director with special responsibility for Industrial Market Research.

Chris Thomas joins Merac after four years as the senior executive consultant with the UK based Firth Middle East Research Association.

Step

His appointment is a further step towards Merac's goal of building a professional multinational staff.

In the past months Merac has also strengthened its fieldwork capability by adding two more Bahraini graduates to its field management team, Mahmud Ismail Ali Mohamed and Maher Hassan Hubail.

Stuart Morris, Managing Director, says, "Today's maturing markets in the Gulf mean that marketing has assumed a growing importance in the commercial process. Merac is simply gearing up to offer our clients a fully comprehensive marketing consultancy service."

Merac also recently became a member of the MBL Group of research companies with head office in London.

World Bank loan for India

WASHINGTON, Feb 7. (AP): The World Bank announced yesterday \$295-million loan to help India develop its natural gas reserves and reduce dependence on imported fuel.

"Production from India's oil fields is reaching a plateau at a time when industry is demanding more energy," the announcement said. "India will be more able to meet demand by tapping into abundant natural gas reserves estimated at 700 billion cubic metres, equal to about 570 million tons of oil."

Markets remain wary

Dollar flexes muscles ahead of trade data

LONDON, Feb 7, (Reuter): The dollar starts this week in better shape, buoyed by a wave of money market buying, but investors are wary of forecasting sharp rally ahead of Friday's key US trade statistics.

The dollar jumped two pfennings on Friday despite news that fewer Americans than expected found work in January, seen by dealers as a sign that the US economy is slowing down.

The US currency closed in New York at 1.7025 West German marks, a 2 1/2-month high and seven per cent more than its record quoted low of 1.585 at the start of 1988.

ting imports and denting the US trade deficit — blamed for imbalancing the global balance sheet.

"Some people are saying that you can't buy the dollar because of the implications for lower interest rates. But others are saying a weak economy and lower consumption would help trim the trade deficit," said a New York currency dealer.

I don't know whether this kind of logic can persist," said Leslie Putz of Banque Indosuez in New York.

"It's going to require some hard economic data to continue this rally," said Bob Hatcher of

Barclays Bank in New York.

"The first number that comes to mind is (next Friday's) trade report."

It was bad US trade numbers which helped trigger the "Black Monday" October crash, so investors eagerly await the news.

There was an unexpected narrowing in the November deficit to \$13.22 billion from 17.63 billion.

Shortfall

"Anticipation is running high that the next US trade figures will be better than last time," a Frankfurt trader said.

The dealer said some estimates for the December US trade deficit suggested a shortfall of as

little as \$11 billion.

But dealers in the Middle East, the only place where currencies are traded over the weekend, were taking no chances and the dollar was little changed from New York closing levels.

Only a few scattered deals were done on Saturday with Bahrain dealers waiting for trading to start in the powerful Tokyo market.

Waning inflation fears hit the gold price and it starts the week on a gloomy note after closing on Friday in London at a 9 1/2-month low of \$438.75 an ounce, about \$40 down from the start of the year.

Banker sees up to 75,000 job losses in financial sector

ZURICH, Feb 7, (Reuter): Up to 75,000 people working in the financial sector in London and New York could lose their jobs in the wake of last October's world stock market crash, a senior international banker said yesterday.

Hans-Joerg Rudloff, deputy chairman of Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd, a leading banker in the international bond market, said banks and other financial companies were now carrying out sweeping restructuring after the crash.

"There is always a huge human price to pay. But let us not forget that these people did not hire themselves — they were hired by managers who misjudged the situation," he added.

In a sombre assessment of the world financial scene after the crash, Rudloff told an audience of bankers and investment analysts that responsibility for the crash lay with them.

The financial industry had crabbled because it had been "misguided, mismanaged and incom-

petent." Markets had moved further and further away from the "real" economy and had indulged increasingly in purely speculative business, he said.

Lost

"Our industry went the wrong way, it lost sight of essentials," Rudloff added.

As an example, he singled out the activities of corporate raiders who had bought up and destroyed companies simply for the liquidation value of their shares.

"They did this with the complicity of the entire banking system, operating for its own gain," he added.

In an informal poll of the several hundred participants in the conference, conducted by a show of hands, over half of those present indicated that they believed the cause of the crash had been the fact that markets were over-valued.

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Opec output drops sharply

PARIS, Feb 7, (AP): Opec oil production fell sharply last month, mainly because of cutbacks by the organisation's Gulf exporters, including Saudi Arabia, the International Energy Agency said today.

The agency evicted a reduction in buyer interest in Opec oil, reflecting what analysts have called a growing unwillingness among oil companies to pay Opec prices that are well above free-market levels.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' official average price is \$18 a barrel, whereas crude of comparable quality is selling in the open market for about \$1.50 a barrel less.

Opec production in January was 17.0 million barrels a day, down from 18.3 million a day in December, according to the energy agency's monthly report. The Paris-based agency monitors world oil market developments on behalf of 21 Western governments.

was estimated to have fallen by one-third, to 1.0 million barrels a day. Its Opec-decreed quota is 948,000 barrels a day.

Opec's biggest producer and most powerful member, Saudi Arabia, saw its output slip to 4.0 million barrels a day from 4.2 million in December, the report said. The Saudi quota is 4.34 million barrels daily.

Quotas

Iran's production was put at 2.0 million barrels a day, down 100,000 barrels daily, while Nigeria's was estimated to have fallen by 200,000 barrels a day, to 1.1 million. Both were below their Opec quotas.

The report said that all Gulf producers together pumped about 1.1 million barrels a day less in January than the month before. Outside Opec, oil production in the United States was put at 9.9 million barrels a day, the same as in January. For all of 1987, American production averaged 10.0 million barrels a day, down from 10.3 million the year before, the report said.

The highest decline in January was by the UAE whose output

was estimated to have fallen by one-third, to 1.0 million barrels a day. Its Opec-decreed quota is 948,000 barrels a day.

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CURRENCY & BUSINESS

US-Japanese trade gap widens

THE first month of trading this year provided extreme gyrations in the FX markets. Demonstration of belief by central authorities that the dollar's decline was more than adequate came on the first day of trading when initial dollar pressure was met with decisive and concerted intervention to reverse the dollar's trend — the scale of which has only been repeated 3-4 times since flexible exchanges have been in operation.

The strong dollar bear squeeze saw the US unit move rapidly higher. The upshot of better than market anticipated activity with the continued upward momentum taking the US unit beyond Y130, DM1.69 and £1.77.

However, the euphoria was predictably short-lived with Japanese numbers indicating the bilateral US-Japanese trade gap widening, according to Currency Monitor published by the National Bank of Kuwait.

Although there may be grounds for cautious optimism that November's numbers may possibly indicate a turning point, a continued improvement of this magnitude is improbable.

The average of the last quarter's figures at \$15 billion, still indicates a rising year-on-year trend, and annualised to \$180 billion, continues to represent a sizeable saving and investment distortion.

For the interim, with the con-

trol authorities keen to prevent another dollar slide this is liable to dissuade significant testing to lower levels.

Conversely any upside push on the US unit will also be tempered with central banks looking to cap the dollar's rise if only to replenish their non-dollar foreign exchange reserves.

However the markets will remain extremely wary to the dollar's vulnerability with the downside risks far greater than the currency's upside potential.

Without the fundamental concerns of the twin budget and trade deficits adequately addressed, and eventual reluctance of central banks to run down their foreign reserves, the outlook remains for a lower dollar over the year.

Stability

Anticipated short-term stability for the dollar will dilute recent calls for higher US interest rates, and the need to maintain activity throughout this election year will for the present override.

However, with the funding requirement still huge the financing arena remains extremely fragile and a downside push in interest rate can be ruled out.

Over the year as a whole, with further dollar weakness anticipated, downward pressure on rates is probably inevitable.

With the dollar's recent uptick, policy elsewhere has reverted to focus on domestic considerations.

Significant intervention has led to higher monetary growth and policy emphasis is now for restraint. Interest rates have probably reached their floor and although for the immediate future official rates are unlikely to change, market rates could edge higher.

KD rates

Except for a short-lived tightening at the beginning of the month, the domestic market continued to enjoy ample levels of liquidity.

As a result, interest rates on the Kuwaiti dinar assumed a distinctively softer tone. On Saturday, however, the announcement of the fourth issue of Treasury instruments, in amounts totalling KD 200 million, produced a typical uptick in rates.

Debt

This public debt issue, coming after a six-week break, put on offer KD 120 million in Treasury bills and KD 80 million in one-year bonds carrying a 5 5/8% promised yield.

Compared to a 6% return on similar bonds offered on the first issue, this fully reflects — and to some extent sanctions — the recent downturn in KD rates.

Treasury bills, subject to competitive bidding, usually tend to amplify the drift downwards, as banks fiercely compete to secure their share of a limited supply of paper needed not only for its return, but also for liquidity purposes.

Demonstration of central authorities commitment to stable exchange rates came on the first day of trading this year, when initial dollar pressure in

Never-the-less the tightening episode during the first week of January shed some doubts over the latter function, as bills failed to provide a satisfactory alternative to overnight funding which shot up to triple-digit figure.

Yet, banks who receive "support funds" in the context of the "difficult credit facilities settlement programme," will be keen on reinvesting, at least part of these funds in three-month government securities.

Bonds

So far, the government has raised a total of KD 628 million of bills and bonds during the first three issues.

The fourth issue will add another KD 200 million, bring the total to KD 828 million, representing 59 per cent of the global ceiling of KD 1400 million of authorized public debt.

This leaves room for another KD 572 million to be issued before hitting the allowed ceiling.

It is worth mentioning, however, that, as from February 24, the first treasury bills will start maturing, and consequently the allowed additional debt is to be viewed as a dynamic balancing item, rather than a forcibly shrinking residual.

US dollar

Demonstration of central authorities commitment to stable exchange rates came on the first day of trading this year, when initial dollar pressure in

Tokyo was met with decisive and concerted intervention to reverse the dollar's rise if only to replenish their non-dollar foreign exchange reserve.

However, the markets are likely to remain extremely wary to the dollar's vulnerability with the downside risks far greater than the currency's upside potential.

Thereafter the markets waited in quiet anticipation of the US trade numbers. The upshot of which was that market anticipated numbers saw another concentration of frenzied activity with the dollar firmly higher.

The upward momentum took the US unit beyond Y130, DM1.69 and £1.77. The positive fever moved into bond and equity markets pushing prices higher worldwide. However, euphoria was rapidly curtailed with Japanese figures indicating that the bilateral trade gap between the US and Japan continues to widen.

Rates edged downwards to Y127.6, DM1.66 and £1.79. On a trade-weighted basis the index remains 94.0.

Sterling

Over the year as a whole, with further dollar weakness anticipated, upward pressure on interest rates is probably inevitable.

The dollar's sharp fall at the turn of the year brought sterling to five year highs of £1.88. The US unit's recent rebound brought the rate back to current £1.77.

(To be continued)

Policymakers favour easy credit stance

US central bankers may act to cut interest rates

WASHINGTON, Feb 7, (Reuters): US central bankers meeting this week are likely to act quickly to cut some interest rates if the economy shows clear signs of faltering, economists say.

The US Federal Reserve's policymaking Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) is due to meet on Tuesday and Wednesday to consider the course of US monetary policy.

While some economists see the policymakers voting to ease credit right away, others say it will bode steady until there is more conclusive evidence about the state of the US economy.

Rates

"They're going to be a little bit careful just yet," said Martin Regalia, director of Research and Economics for the National Council of Savings Institutions.

If the Fed, the US Central Bank, acts too quickly to lower interest rates without clear signs

of an economic slowdown, it could mean problems for the dollar, Regalia said. "It could drop very sharply," he said.

On the other hand, if signs of a sharp slowdown in growth develop, the Fed will still have enough time to act to avoid recession, he said.

Even if the Fed does choose to ease at this time, economists said it is unlikely it will cut its key discount rate, the interest rate it charges banks for loans.

Funds

The Fed is more likely to lower the Fed funds rate, the interest banks charge each other for loans, to about 6 1/4 per cent from around 6 1/2 per cent currently, Mickey Levy, senior economist with Fidelity Bank in Philadelphia, said.

The Reagan administration, which had overseen five years of continuous economic expansion, had last week said that growth in the money supply has been below the Fed's own targets and added that the administration's forecast of 2.4 per cent growth in 1988 depended on the Fed meeting rates.

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Experts here said the difference could be explained by 1987's bad weather.

Intensive

This year, Moscow plans to apply intensive technology to about 41 million hectares (101 million acres) of grain out of a total of about 228 million hectares (563 million acres) under cultivation. The target is to have 50.4 million hectares (12.4 million acres) under intensive technology by 1990.

Many of the methods are already in wide use in the West, but have required investments in new quality machinery and specialist machinery training programmes in the Soviet Union.

The Russians have not yet said how much more grain was produced by the 35 million hectares (87 million acres) farmed under intensive technology last year.

But the newspaper Izvestia said on January 23 that yields in those areas were 38 per cent higher than the average yield of other areas.

That would mean the intensive technology areas produced about 24 million additional tons

of grain for the 1987 harvest — more than 10 per cent of the crop.

In 1986, the amount of additional grain produced under the new method of cultivation was 24 million tonnes, although the area was less — about 29 million hectares (71 million acres).

Experts here said the difference could be explained by 1987's bad weather.

"Almost all of the indicators point to a severe weakening in the economy," Levy said.

A stable dollar gives the Fed more flexibility to lower interest rates, he said.

Interest rates fell after the Fed eased on the money supply following the October 19 stock market crash.

But since then the Central Bank has held steady on monetary policy.

Mortgage Bankers Association economist Lyle Gramley, a former Fed governor, said he does not believe the FOMC will vote to ease further this week, but will keep a particularly watchful eye on the economy because of uncertain outlook.

"I don't think the Federal Reserve will ease credit," Gramley said.

But Fidelity Bank's Levy said the Fed will vote to ease.

"Almost all of the indicators point to a severe weakening in the economy," Levy said.

Furthemore, many economists expect manufacturers to slow production to work off inventories of unsold goods that have been piling up on the shelves...

"The cost of a recession at this stage would be very high," he added. "It's important to avoid a recession and not just for political reasons."

Ley said the high level of personal and business indebtedness would aggravate any downturn.

The economy has shown signs of weakness, but the data has been mixed. The index of leading indicators, a key gauge of future economic growth, fell in December, the third monthly decline in a row.

Furthermore, many economists expect manufacturers to slow production to work off inventories of unsold goods that have been piling up on the shelves...

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VOLVO 240GL 1984 model registered 1985, manual 5 gears in excellent condition inside and out. Tele. 2452880 office, 5336489 (res). (AT1-40842-3)

HONDA Accord 1985 44000 km. Toyota Corolla 1981, white colour in good condition KD 1400 and KD350 extra. Tele. Heath, 2432046/8/9, 7.30 am - 2.00 pm. (AT1-40836-3)

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NEW DELHI, two plots of 200 sq. yds. each in Kapil Vihar for sale at very reasonable prices. Tele. Kumar, 4879016-7 ext 181, 7 - 9 am. (AT1-40860-3)

PHOTOCOPIER, sideboard, TV and video stand, large wall unit, medium wall unit. Double bed end mattress, coffee table, display cabinet, music stand, rocking chair. Tele. 2612424. (AT1-40832-3)

GERMAN Shepherd pure breed, 10 months old, needs a good home. KD 300. For further details Tele. Mr. Bedar, 3903000 (home after 5 pm) 3260233 ext 3204 (work). (AT1-40854-3)

HITACHI, set off video camera VK-C800E, case, portable VTR-VT-6500 E - case & 2 batteries, AC adaptor/charger A-V80E Camera power unit A-C70BS, wide angle lens, flash. 3 ARCTICR lens. Tele. 5736756. (AT1-40888-2)

MISHRIK, two storey spacious villa with garden, curtains, carpets, drip-irrigation system with some light fittings for sale KD1400. Rent KD650. Tele. Omer, 4734368, 5 pm onwards. (AT1-40874-3)

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3 AC's, TV, video, refrigerator, sofa set, dining table with chairs, single beds, wooden cupboards, sideboards etc. Tele. N.S. Nizami, 5656937, 8 am - 2 pm, 5 - 9 pm. (AT1-40859-3)

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SONY TV new model 22 inch with 24 systems new chains screen price KD 120. Tele. Bassam 5713190. (AT1-40852-3)

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SECRETARY, female, with 5 years experience in typing, telex, filing, and all office routine work, seeks a full-time job. Tele. 5615163, Ligerio Victorino Vales. (AT1-40886-2)

HALF container to Houston available. Tele. 3949773. (AT1-40871-2)

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FORWANIYA to Hawaii, 4 pm and back at 9 pm. Tele. 2644632, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT1-40843-3)

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FULL time (or full day) maid knowing English for an Indian working couple in Salmya. Tele. S.P. Gupta, 5745176, 7 - 9 am, 12.30 - 2.30 pm or after 8 pm. (AT1-40857-3)

MAID required, preferably Sri Lankan for a small Indian family to live-in. KD40. Tele. 2613922. (AT2-LD/TM-3)

DRIVER required, Bangladeshi, for a family. Must have a transferable visa. Tele. 2459034, 2459035, 9 am - 1 pm, 5 - 7.30 pm. (AT1-40889-3)

BROWN wallet containing passport No. B076593 in the name of Mr Francis Lodovico Sequeira at Kuwait International Airport (Terminal 1) 2-2-1988. Tele. Francis 2411001, ext 587 office; 4735867 res. Off. 7.30 am - 1.30 pm. Res. 2 pm onwards or the Indian embassy 2530600. (AT1-40888-3)

MAID, Filipino required for a European family to live-in. Must have a transferable visa and be able to cook. Tele. 5632464. (AT1-40890-3)

MAID required, any nationality, for a small Indian family with one child to live-in, behind the Holiday Inn, Farwaniya. Tele. Tony, 4819190, 4819188. (AT1-40881-3)

MAID required, any nationality, for a small Indian family with one child to live-in, behind the Holiday Inn, Farwaniya. Tele. Tony, 4819190, 4819188. (AT1-40870-3)

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Wanted

SECRETARY, female, with 5 years experience in typing, telex, filing, and all office routine work, seeks a full-time job. Tele. 5615163, Ligerio Victorino Vales. (AT1-40886-2)

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SPORTS

Rafferty wins Matchplay Golf title

MELBOURNE, Australia, Feb 7. (AP): Northern Irishman Rojan Rafferty survived a tense struggle with Australian Mike Clayton today to win the \$71,000 Australian Matchplay Golf Championship at Melbourne's Kingston Heath Club.

Rafferty fought back over the closing holes to beat Clayton 1-up and claim the \$14,000 first prize.

Clayton, 30, seized the initiative in the 36-hole final with a birdie three at the par-4 third hole and held on to the lead to the 32nd hole.

Clayton led 5-up after 14 holes, after shooting eight birdies in the opening round, but Rafferty gradually fought his way back into contention.

Birdies from Rafferty at the par-three 15th and 18th and back-to-back bogeys by Clayton at the 16th and 17th saw the lead whittled away.

Clayton smashed his putter in frustration in the locker room after the first 18 holes.

The pair went into the second round with the Aussie 1-up, and while Rafferty managed to battle back to be square, it was not until Clayton bogeyed the 16th that the Irishman took up the pace.

Clayton needed to birdie the final hole to force the match into a sudden-death playoff, but could manage to better than ever-par, and Rafferty rolled his putt to within a foot of the hole forcing Clayton to concede.

• In Pebble Beach, California, Steve Jones, shot a two-under-par 70 yesterday for a ten-under-par 206 total and a three stroke lead in the \$700,000 Pebble Beach National Pro-am Golf Tournament.

Bernhard Langer of West Germany and Craig Stadler were tied for second place at seven-under-par 209. Langer had a 70 and Stadler 71.

Mark Calvacchia was tied with Jones at the start of the day but he shot a three-over-par 75 and dropped back into a third place tie with Dick Mast and Jim Carter at five-under-par 211.

Brion Sandy Lyle contended early but three bogeys in the last four holes dropped him into a tie for seventh place with five others including Tom Watson, Bob Tway and Hale Irwin.

Jones, a five-year veteran on the tour, is still seeking his first individual victory.

• He started the day with four birdies in his first five holes but the best he could do the rest of the way was two birdies and four bogeys.

Jones said, "with a three stroke lead you have to attack the course because it's better to lose by attacking it than by not attacking it."

Langer, making his first start in the US this year, had five birdies and three bogeys with three of the birdies coming through the last eight holes.

Langer said, "it's not going to be easy for Steve, but on the other hand, 18 holes can be a long way to go for all of us."

• In Boca Raton, Florida, Nancy Lopez bested chilly weather and swirling winds yesterday to post a one-under-par 71 for a 208 total after the third round of play in the \$200,000 LPGA Florida Classic golf tournament.

Lopez holds a four-stroke lead over Spain's Marta Figueras-Dotti, who had a round of 72 and a 212 total. Second year player Martha Foyer is another stroke back in third place at 213.

The second and third rounds of play were completed yesterday after fog forced cancellation of play on Friday.

Swirling winds of 20 miles per hour swept the course as the barometer dipped into the 50s to make playing conditions very cold and difficult.

Figueras-Dotti recorded an even par round of 72 and Lopez was happy with her score.

Foyer had three birdies and three bogeys in her round. "I practiced here all last week in weather like this so I am accustomed to it," said Foyer. "I'm not really thinking about catching Lopez in tomorrow's round, I just have to play my own game."

Grouped together at 214 are Amy Benz, Missie McGeorge, Jan Stephenson, Patty Sheehan and Cathy Marino.

A sip of tea or coffee could end Olympic dreams

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb 7. (AP): As little as a cup of coffee or a sip of the wrong type of tea could kill an Olympic athlete's dreams of glory before the games even begin, says a doctor who tests US Olympic athletes for drugs.

Dr Mary Ann Everhart is one of about 40 volunteer physicians who test athletes for drugs and advise them about substances to avoid to remain eligible for the Winter and Summer Olympics.

"We talk with all the athletes about what is on the banned list, so they know what to stay away from," Everhart said.

RAIN STOPS PLAY ON THE FIRST DAY

England out of trouble

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand, Feb 7. (Reuters): Aggressive middle-order batting took England from a shaky start to 243 for six wickets by the time rain stopped play on the first day of a three-day cricket match against New Zealand's Shell XI selection today.

More than two hours of play was lost because of the rain after lunch and stumps finally were drawn 20 minutes before the scheduled close.

Resumed

England were not too securely placed at 89 for three wickets at lunch after losing Chris Broad, Martyr Moxon and Bill Athey.

But when play resumed at 5 pm the English batsmen stepped up the run rate with some powerful hitting from Neil Fairbrother,

Philip De Freitas and John Emburey, the captain for the match while Mike Gatting recovers from influenza.

Fairbrother added 25 runs in 3.3 overs after play resumed before being caught behind. De Freitas went on to thrill the crowd with 41 off 29 balls including two sixes.

His 69 run partnership with Tim Robinson put England in a much healthier position.

Robinson's innings ended on 74 when he was caught at midoff attempting to lift Broad over the close fieldsmen.

Emburey was unbeaten at the close on 32, after six fours and one six. England's runs came off 49 overs and were scored off 116 minutes.

Score: England 243 for six (T. Robinson 74, N. Fairbrother 46)

Scoreboard					
ENGLAND, first innings:					
C Broad	c Gathreid b Watson	...	3	M. Moxon	c Gathreid b Millnow
T. Robinson	c and (R. Brown) b V. Brown	...	4	N. Fairbrother	c McSweeney b Barrett
W Athey	c McSweeney b Barrett	17	17	J. Emburey	c McSweeney b K. Narasingha
			46	P. De Freitas	b Barrett
			41	J. Emburey	not out
			32	J. Richards	not out
			28	Extras (ab-4, lb-2)	6
			243	Total (for six wickets)	243
			4-12	Fall of wickets	1-2, 2-7, 3-44, 4-
			112	5-181, 6-201	

Bowling: Watson 7.3-15.1, Millnow 14-3-18.1, Barrett 11-0-62-2 (ab-4), Kuggeteia 10-1-35-1, V. Brown 7-2-25-1.

To bat: N. Fairbrother, P. Jarvis, G. Dilley.

Shell XI: P. Horne, R. Vasco, A. Jones, M. Greenhinch, C. Gregorio, T. Burrell, E. McSweeney, V. Brown, B. Barrett, W. Watson, J. Millnow.

SRI LANKAN DOUBLES HIS WICKET TALLY

Labrooy destroys Victorians

MELBOURNE, Feb 7. (Reuters): Sri Lanka swing bowler Graeme Labrooy more than doubled his first-class wicket tally today when he took seven for 71 to destroy the Victorian batting on the second day of their four-day cricket match.

Labrooy, who had taken only six first-class wickets before this match, was instrumental in dismissing Victoria for 146 in their first innings.

At the close Sri Lanka were 79 for one in their second innings, an overall lead of 90.

Paceman Ravi Ratnayake had a less happy day than his 23-year-old opening partner when he was removed from the attack by umpire Bert Guy after taking one for 19 of 13 overs.

Guy had already warned Ratnayake twice for running down the pitch and when he infringed again with the final ball of his

13th over the umpire ruled him out of the attack.

Labrooy, playing only his fourth first-class match, started the rot when he had Dan Whitmore caught behind for five.

He followed up by bowling test batsman Dean Jones for six, trapped Jamie Siddons lbw for four then dismissed Peter Young first ball.

Test all-rounder Tony Dodemaide averted the hat trick and then provided the only real resistance of the innings with a fighting 32 in two hours.

Sri Lanka, dismissed for 157 yesterday, made a better start in their second innings with opener Roshan Mahanama unbeaten on 40 at the close.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA first innings 157 (S. Davis five for 50)

VICTORIA first innings

D. Whitmore c De Alwis b Labrooy

Injuries delay selection

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand, Feb 7. (Reuters): Fast bowler Richard Hadlee and batsman Martin Crowe are on a lengthy New Zealand injury list that has forced the selectors to delay naming their side for the first Test against England.

Don Neely, chairman of the selectors, was to have named the team today for the Test starting in Christchurch on Friday.

But worries over Hadlee's knee and Crowe's hamstring plus leg injuries suffered by medium-fast bowlers Willie Watson and Danny Morrison and Ian Smith's broken finger prevented this.

"We had three with injuries (Hadlee, Crowe and Smith) before today but Watson and Morrison both left the field in their respective matches with muscle trouble," Neely said.

Jansen wins skating events

MILWAUKEE, Feb 7. (AP): American Dan Jansen, skating on his home rink, won the 500- and 1,000-metre events yesterday to take the lead after winning the 1000m in the first day's competition.

Jansen fought zero (Fahrenheit) temperatures (-18 Celsius) and 20 mph (32 kph) winds to win the 500 in 38.83 seconds and the 1,000 in 1 minute, 20.24 seconds.

In the women's division, Christina Rothenburger of East Germany was in first place after winning the 500 metres and placing second to teammate Karin Kanina at 1,000 meters.

She holds the world record in the 1,000. She won four medals in the 1,000, leaving him in ninth place in the standings.

Rothenburger, who holds the world record of 39.39 seconds, won the 500 in 41.30 seconds.

American Nick Thometz was eighth in the 500 and ninth in the 1,000, leaving him in ninth place in the standings.

Canadian Gaetan Boucher of Canada, who won the 200 and 1,500 metres in the 1984 Winter Olympics.

Bonnie Blair of the United States finished second to Rothenburger in the 500 in 41.60 seconds and was fourth at 1,000. She was third overall in yesterday's standings.

"It was windy and cold and hard for me to race," said Kanina, noting conditions should be different at the Olympics where speed skating will be indoors.

"My performance was good, not very good but good," she said. "I want to reach a high point in two weeks."

Hokkaido bridge club game results played yesterday

1. Kuri & Drsler

2. Mrs Naoko Kishida & Shanti

3. Mrs Sandra Turvey & Dr Adel

4. L. Saito & Chawdhury

5. Drs. Dibb & Ibrahim

6. Mr. Gargi & George

7. Mr. Gargi & George

8. Mr. Gargi & George

9. Mr. Gargi & George

10. Mr. Gargi & George

11. Mr. Gargi & George

12. Mr. Gargi & George

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16. Mr. Gargi & George

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32. Mr. Gargi & George

33. Mr. Gargi & George

34. Mr. Gargi & George

35. Mr. Gargi & George

36. Mr. Gargi & George

37. Mr. Gargi & George

38. Mr. Gargi & George

39.

Arsenal defeat Everton

LONDON, Feb 7. (Reuter): Leg-weary Everton, playing their 15th game in 43 days, were beaten 1-0 by holders Arsenal in their English League Cup semifinal first leg clash today.

But the League champions have only themselves to blame. Trevor Steven, hero on Wednesday, missed the 79th minute penalty, ballooning the ball high over the bar to the intense frustration of the 25,000 home crowd.

It was Steven who snatched the last-gasp equaliser against Middlesbrough in a Football Association (FA) cup fourth round replay four nights ago.

A 10th minute goal by Perry Groves gave Arsenal their hard-earned success and the Londoners now start favourites for the second leg at Highbury towards the end of the month.

Everton must regroup in time for yet another cup game on Tuesday, the second replay of their tie with Middlesbrough.

That will be the first division side's ninth cup match in their last 10 games. By contrast, Arsenal have just spent five days in Spain and today the difference was evident.

Groves' early and classy goal got Arsenal off to a fine start and although Everton fought hard and created some respectable chances, Arsenal held on well.

Defender Tony Adams was booked in the middle of a furious Arsenal protest over the award of the penalty but Steven soothed his anger by his miss, unhappy in front of England manager Bobby Robson.

Malayalee Samajam soccer draw

THE draw for Kuwait Malayalee Samajam soccer trophy was conducted here on Friday.

The lot was drawn by PP Thomas, treasurer of Samajam at the Tip Top Restaurant, in the presence of representatives of participating teams, tournament committee and Samajam office bearers.

The 11-a-side tournament, which will be played on knock-out basis, will be staged in the ground located behind Fahadeen Cinema. There will be 20 Indian teams, representing Goa, Kerala and Karnataka communities.

These teams have been divided into four groups A, B, C and D with five teams in each group.

There will be a total of 19 matches (13 matches in each group, 4 quarter finals, 2 semifinals and 1 final).

The kick off will be at 7 am on Friday February 12.

The opening match will be between BOC and Super United Football Association followed by another match at 8.30 am between Konkan XI and Incredible Goan.

The tournament is part of the celebration of India's 40th Independence Day, and is sponsored by Sana Household.

Napoli overcome Pisa to maintain lead on top

ROME, Feb 7. (Reuter): Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona scored a blistering second-half goal today as champions Napoli overcame lowly Pisa 2-1 to maintain their four-point lead over AC Milan at the top of the Italian League.

Milan, who beat Cesena 3-0, were given a great start when their Dutch European Footballer of The Year Ruud Gullit hammered the ball through a defensive wall and past the Cesena goalkeeper from a free kick in the 13th minute.

Napoli, who had their lead away meeting with Pisa reversed from a 1-0 defeat to a 2-0 win for the champions after midfielder Alessandro Renici had been injured by a coin thrown from the stands, quickly stamped their mark on the game.

Renici exacted his revenge in the 13th minute, heading home after Maradona had lofted a free kick into the area.

Maradona, the League's top goalscorer this season with 11 goals, extended Napoli's advantage with an almost identical goal to Gullit's — powered straight into the left-hand corner of the net from a free kick in the 75th minute.

Pisa, demoralised but still fighting pulled back within a minute through the goal by Stefano Cuoghi.

Napoli lead the division with 31 points, followed by Milan on 27 and Roma, who were booted off the pitch after drawing 0-0 with relegation-threatened Avellino, third with 24.

Third defence for the bantamweight crown

Seabrooks knocks out Beltran to retain IBF title

PARIS, Feb 7. (AP): Kelvin Seabrooks of the United States battered Mexican Fernando Beltran to the canvas four times in two rounds last night, retaining his International Boxing Federation bantamweight crown with a technical knockout.

Seabrooks, 24, used a hard right to deck Beltran midway through the first round. He then came back in the second using two more rights to down the challenger before flooring him for the third and final time with a brutal left hook.

The American raised his record to 23-1, including 18 before the limit. Beltran fell to 54-6.

Third title
It was Seabrooks' third title defence since he won the vacant crown on May 15, 1987, by knocking out Miguel Maturana of Colombia. He also scored a technical knockout over Thierry

Jacob of France on July 4, in Calais, France, and knocked out Eric Cataluna of the Philippines on Nov 18 in San Cataldo, Italy.

Beltran, 26, was the IBF's fifth-ranked challenger.

The fight was scheduled to go 15 rounds, and although Seabrooks was a slight favourite, boxing fans were up for a surprise because the American had run into early, serious trouble in his first two defences.

Stopped

The first round started with a fast pace as the two fighters delivered light, largely ineffectual blows. Seabrooks kept steady pressure on his opponent, and midway through the round he unleashed a left hook and an overhand right that put the challenger on the floor for the third time.

Beltran, in his first title challenge, offered little resistance to the champion in the less than six minutes of the fight.

Seabrooks' fast start was a definite change from his earlier title defences.

Knocked down

Jacob knocked him down three times in the first round of their fight last summer and was moved to Paris.

The bell for the second round had hardly stopped echoing when Seabrooks sent Beltran to the canvas with another hard right. Midway through the round, Beltran was down again, victim of that same right.

As round two was drawing to a close, Beltran had worked Seabrooks up against the ropes with a series of fast punches. But the champion nailed his opponent with a crunching left hook and an overhand right that put the challenger on the floor for the third time.

"I like fighting right-handers,"

Seabrooks said in the ring immediately after the fight, acknowledging that he has had his problems with left-handers. "I worked on a lot of things in training."

Beltran, originally from La Seyne Sur Mer on the French Riviera, but an eye injury forced him to announce his retirement in January. Beltran was substituted and the fight was moved to Paris.



Seabrooks (right) aims to punch Beltran. (Reuter wirephoto)

S. Korean outpunches Mexican to retain title

SEOUL, Feb 7. (AP): South Korea's Yoo Myong-Woo outpunched Mexican challenger Wilhardo Salazar today to retain his World Boxing Association junior flyweight title with a unanimous decision.

There were no knockdowns in the 12-round action-packed bout in Seoul's Munhwa Gymnasium.

Japanese judge Kasumasa Kuwata scored it 118-110 in favour of the Korean champion, while two US judges, William McConkey and Albert Wiesenky, scored it 117-112 and 116-113 respectively.

Seventh

It was Yoo's seventh defence of the title he won from Joey Olivo of the United States in December 1985.

Both boxers fought aggressively from the start of the first round, with the challenger displaying fast foot action and strong counter punches.

Yoo, 24, took the offensive in the second round and punished Salazar with strong head blows followed by a combination of short left-right hooks.

Jansher wins Finnish Open

HELSINKI, Feb 7. (Reuter): World champion Jansher Khan powered his way to the Finnish Open squash title today winning the final 9-0 9-17 against fellow Pakistani Umar Hayat Khan.

"I'm in good shape physically and I'm in excellent form mentally just now," 18-year-old Jansher, world number one and first seed there, said after he won the \$4,500 first prize from his second-round opponent.

"But I expect to go on improving my game by making it more varied and relying less just on physical condition."

He said earlier he was training seven hours a day, four of them on the court, but did not expect to peak for some seasons yet.

Sue Devoy of New Zealand, the world's top-ranking woman player who beat England's Lucy Souter 9-7 10-9 9-1 in their final, said: "I was a bit nervous in the first set but my game improved all the time."



Haugen (left) throws a punch at Pazienza during third round action. (Reuter wirephoto)

The 28-year-old Haugen of Las Vegas, Nevada, now has a 21-1 record with 10 knockouts. Pazienza, 25, of Cranston, Rhode Island, lost for the first time after 23 victories, 18 by knockouts. He has one no-contest on his record.

Fisa changes its mind on Group B

By Gall Seery

RESULTS in the Middle East have not been good.

In the recent Duhai International, 4 Quattros, were entered, three of which had complete works backing — of these only the non-emirates backed car driven by club president Saeed Khalfan finished, in a disappointing 11th position. Again, Jaber Al Marri entered a similar car in last year's Kuwait International, but went out of the rally on the first road section of the second leg.

Al Marri's car will be supported by David Sutton of Audi Sport, and this will undoubtedly improve the car's chances of staying in the running. Sutton supported David Llewellyn, now an A-rated driver, in the Cyprus Rally last September.

Bin Sulayem is driving his familiar Toyota Celica TwinCam Turbo — which has always been considered as one of the most suitable cars for this region, and he told Arab Times that he wants to stay with the season with another victory.

After the Qatar Rally which takes place on Thursday and Friday, the teams will have a month to prepare for the next event in the Middle East Championship calendar, the Kuwait International. The final score was A M 15 and SF/Braun 7.

With reflection of the 1987 fall

Baseball

Al Julaiyah produce biggest surprise of the day

THE first Little League and Teeball baseball games of the 1988 spring season got underway on January 29. We had a show of good sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and support by all team members, parents and spectators.

In the 8:00 am game, A M Ambassadors, coached by Rose Navarro challenged Santa Fe Braun, coached by Oduman and Florence Al Nasrallah. In the first inning A M A had a slight lead with 5 to 3, scored by Cory Fox, Talal Navarro, Erik Fox, Keita Miyasaka, and Kee Lee making a home run with 2 RBI's. SF/Braun's scorers were Shehab Al Badou, Patrick O'Connor, and Jason Zeplin.

Second inning tied 3 to 3 with Cory Fox, Talal Navarro, and Erik Fox for A M A and Patrick O'Connor, Sheham Khajah, and Jason Zeplin making a home run for SF/Braun.

A M A took over in the third inning, with one run by Sommer Al Nasrallah for SF/Braun, and 7 runs for A M A made by Cory Fox, Talal Navarro, Hisham Navarro, Erik Fox, Keita Miyasaka, Kee Lee, and Jihad Sakhleh. The final score was A M 15 and SF/Braun 7.

With reflection of the 1987 fall

Final score

The final score was Al Julaiyah 25 and BTC 15. Al Julaiyah made the highest score they have made all year, today, and the highest scoring team of today's games.

In the third game Dresser Magcohar coached by Akira Yoshimura played Santa Fe International, coached by Alex Cervantes. The first inning SF/Int made 1 run by Matthew Bushfield, Shunsaku Ito, Yousef Al Qallaf, Masato Watanabe, Juju Setni, Aziz Al Arfaj, scoring 1 run each. The final score was Dresser 20 and SF/Int 10.

Challenger

In the next game of the day Mustafa and Majed coached by John Brining and Bill Colwell challenged Universal American School coached by Dale Koch.

Scoring players for M&M's were Ryan Fox (2), Ahmed Fathallah (2), Ziad Sakkil (2), Jacob

Hashem

(2), Ussamah Al Arfaj (2), Rahman Al Salem (2), Lucas Runte (2) including a home run, Yasmin Al Salem, Salma Al Fulaij, Ali Al Qallaf and Andrew Colwell all scoring a run each.

Scoring players for UAS were Mahmoud Mokhtar (2), Amir Gul (2), George Georgopoulos (2), David Gagger (2), including a home run, Tareq Al-Shamiri (2), Walid Khalil (2), Mohammed Shaaban (2), Majed Jamsheedi made a home run and 3 RBI's Nader Al Ajmi, Tareq Hankir, Kareem Abu Zeid, and Basel Al Shamiri all scoring a run each. The game ended UAS 19 and M&M's 18.

The fifth and final game of the day Computhink coached by Dave and Jane Fortes played against Getty Oil Co coached by Bob Stucker and Jim Murry.

Those players scoring for Computhink were Scott Fortes (3), Vincent Vannes (2), Bryan Cox (2), Donut Ha Lee (2), and Firas Afrina (1). Scoring players for Getty are Denny Stucker (4), Yousef Al Ajmi (3), Rohby Bhatia (3) including a home run, Johnny Miller (2), Ahmed Al Ajmi (2) Ramsey Hall, Nicky Parek, Ahmed Mokhtar and Raghah all scoring a run each. Final score was Computhink 10 and Getty 16.

Scorers

Khalid: 5 wickets



Crescent beat CCK

Zahid: 5 wickets

Crescent Cricket Club defeated Cricket Club of KOC Wimpy League match played at Ahmadi Ground on Friday.

Batting first CCK scored 165 runs for all out in 30 overs in reply Crescent crossed the mark in 28 overs with a loss of only 5 wickets.

Zahid 5 and Ishaque 45 were Crescent's best batsmen.

Zahid hit 10 fours and a six with Ishaque who gave him every chance to sweep the runs. CCK bowlers were unable to defend themselves except Neville who had a control on his bowling and got 4 wickets for 39 runs.

Crescent's Khalid took 5 wickets for 38 runs in 8 overs. Crescents other bowlers Ehsan, Naeem and Zahid took 2 and 1 wickets each respectively.

Hetherington wins

WELLINGTON, Feb 7. (Reuter): Katrina Adams, who beat four seeded players in her second professional event, lost the final of the \$50,000 Wellington women's international tennis tournament to Canadian Jill Hetherington after suffering a back injury today.

Hetherington won 6-1 6-1 against the 19-year-old American who pulled a back muscle a few hours before going on court and rarely showed the form which earned her a place in the final.

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restrictor plates, mandated by the sanctioning organisation in an effort to slow speeds at its two fastest tracks — Daytona and Alabama international motor speedway in Talladega, Alabama.

Schrader's pole-winning speed proved how well the plates work since he was nearly 17 mph (27 kph) slower than the track-record pole-winning lap of 210.364 (338.539) set last February by Bill Elliott.

"It's my second pole position, but I don't know how many for that team," Schrader said modestly. "I'm just the guy who drove it."

It is the second straight year that Allison has been the runner-up in the opening qualifying session.

This was the first test of Nasar's new one-inch carburetor

The Chevrolets and Fords, which are virtually unchanged from last year, fared well in the first round of qualifying against the sleek, new Pontiac, Buick and Oldsmobile models being used this year.

Only the top two qualifiers in Saturday's session, delayed 90 minutes by rain, locked in starting spots in the Feb 14 race.

"The new restrictor plate made it kind of hard for us to get this old Ford running, but I'm happy to be on the front row," Allison said. "Now we can concentrate on the race."